



# APG NEWS

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## APG observes Women's History Month

By **STACY SMITH**  
APG News

In celebration of Women's History Month, Team APG held the 25th Annual Federal Women's Program training and observance in the Mallette Training Facility on APG North (Aberdeen) March 11.

The FWP is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) program established in 1963 to promote the advancement of federally employed women in the workplace.

The conference and training is an annual opportunity to address women's career and finance concerns. This year's theme was "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives."

"There is a real power in hearing women's stories, both personally and in a larger context," said Rhonda Diaz, director of the Civilian Human Resources Agency (CHRA).

"Today we are celebrating women's history month. We are proud that the stories of American

See **WOMEN'S**, page 18



From left, Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra musicians Joan Beckett-Armstrong of CECOM-LRC, Amy Wilkinson, and Mark Grotke, also of CECOM-LRC, provide musical accompaniment for the APG Community Choir during the National Prayer Luncheon at Top of the Bay March 10.

## Messages of faith, service

Story and photos by **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Team APG attendees received an energized message of faith and resilience during the APG National Prayer Luncheon at Top of the Bay March 10.

The annual non-denominational gathering emphasized building and maintaining a

spiritual relationship with God.

The event took on a St. Patrick's Day theme and many attendees wore green to honor the occasion. Gary Martin, deputy to APG Senior Leader, Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford, welcomed attendees. He said it was "great to gather in celebration."

"While we all celebrate in our own way,

we have much to celebrate and we are all part of each other," he said.

Maj. Gen. Peter D. Utley, commander of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, introduced the guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Leroy Gilbert, former Chaplain of the

See **PRAYER**, page 18

### inside

#### TRAVEL

MWR Travel Fair showcases area travel destinations, entertainment.

Travel | 3

#### RESILIENCE

Employee Assistance Program offers counseling for various problems.

Confronting | 9

#### HISTORY

Popular WWII cartoon Winnie the WAC got its start here at APG.

Popular | 11

#### COMPETITION

The first Iron Eagle Competition put Team APG's fitness to the test.

Iron | 12

### online

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flickr.com/photos/usagapg/

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## RDECOM welcomes new CSM

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
RDECOM

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command welcomed a new senior non-commissioned officer during a ceremony on Aberdeen Proving Ground March 12.

Command Sgt. Maj. James P. Snyder assumed duties as the RDECOM principal adviser to the commanding general for enlisted matters during a change of responsibility ceremony at the APG North (Aberdeen) Myer Auditorium. More than 250 Soldiers and Army civilian employees welcomed Snyder and his family to RDECOM and APG.

Snyder takes over for Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert O. Beharie, who has served as the command's senior enlisted adviser since March 16, 2012. Beharie retires after 30 years of service.

"What a great opportunity to be a part of a unique and diverse organization that is focused on the future success of our warfighters," Snyder said. "From the little I have already seen, it will be a very rewarding assignment."

"I am humbled to be able to serve this command." Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton, RDECOM commanding general, thanked Beharie for his dedication to RDECOM, the Army and nation.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Beharie has been the link between the warfighter and all the technology that we

See **SNYDER**, page 17



Photo by Conrad Johnson  
Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton, right, commanding general of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, passes the RDECOM colors to incoming Command Sgt. Maj. James P. Snyder during a change of responsibility ceremony on APG March 12.

### UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Photo by Molly Blossie

## Construction resumes along Rt. 22, plan for extra travel time

Just as spring weather arrives, so does construction season on MD Route 22 outside the Harford Boulevard gate.

APG motorists and bicyclists should plan for extra travel time to and from the installation during construction to expand Route 22 from two to three lanes for both incoming and outgoing traffic. The longest delays can be expected during common lunch hours.

The Maryland State Highway Administration reminds drivers to obey all posted speed limits and signs. Bicyclists and motorists are prohibited from riding on any shoulder, lane or ramp within a work zone that is closed off with cones, barrels or concrete barriers.

All should exercise caution when traveling through the work zone.

### index

Mark Your Calendar | 6  
At Your Service | 14

All Things Maryland | 8  
Crossword | 16

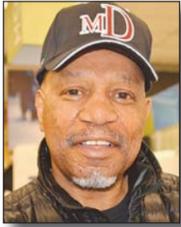
MWR Events | 10  
Did You Know? | 18

APG History | 13  
Snapshot | 19

# STREET TALK

**The first day of spring is March 20. What are you looking forward to this season?**

"I'm looking forward to my yard work. I've got a garden in the back and I grow hot peppers."



**Larry Dunlap**  
Retired military

"Fishing and golf. There's warm weather down south."



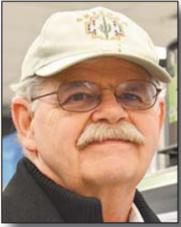
**Staff Sgt. Eric Lundborg**  
NCO Academy

"Going to the beach. I love the beach; I go all the time. It's fun, especially Ocean City, Maryland. I'm also looking forward to doing things down in D.C., when you can walk around without having a coat on."



**Jovan Koger**  
Veterinary Clinic

"Planting a garden – flowers, vegetables, herbs. I try to grow a lot of my own food."



**Nick Borns**  
AEC

"The wonder of God, the change of season, and how the trees know the time even before we do. I'm just amazed at what God does in his creation. I just look forward to the renewing of time."



**Maxine Reed-Vance**  
Family member



Courtesy photo

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries. More often than not, it is the result of leaving cooking food unattended

## Dangers of a distracted cook

By **FIRE INSPECTOR T.C. GLASSMAN**  
*Directorate of Emergency Services*

Many families like cooking together when trying out new recipes or learning new cooking styles. Cooking can be a fun hobby, but it can quickly turn dangerous for a distracted or unprepared cook.

Cooking is the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries. More often than not, it is the result of leaving cooking food unattended.

### Keep an eye on what you fry

Many families use oil for cooking on a daily basis, whether frying or sautéing. Most cooking fires start when someone is frying food.

Stay in the kitchen if you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen – even for a short period of time – turn off the stove.

When cooking with oil, it is important to remember that smoke is the first sign of danger. If you see wisps of smoke or the oil smells, immediately turn off the burner and remove the pan from the burner.

Always keep a pan lid easily accessible while frying or sautéing. If the oil or food ignites, sliding a lid over the pan and

turning off the burner is the safest option. Never throw water on a grease or oil fire. Do not remove the lid – let the pan cool for a while before removing the lid to avoid allowing the fire to restart.

More than half of home cooking fire injuries occur when victims try to fight the fire themselves. If the fire doesn't go out or you don't feel comfortable sliding a lid over the pan, get everyone out of the house and call 911 from outside.

### Be a safe cook

While cooking, it's important to keep yourself from being the fire hazard. Wear short sleeves or roll up long sleeves. Pull back long hair. Avoid loose or flowy clothes that can ignite if they make contact with the burner.

Stay awake and alert while cooking. Alcohol and many prescription drugs can impact your judgment and make you sleepy. An inattentive cook is a dangerous cook.

Keep the cooking area safe by ensuring children and pets are at least three feet from a hot stove. Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove to avoid bumping into them or knocking them off the stove. Always keep flammable items like dish towels far from the stove.

For more fire safety information, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org) or [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).

## Alert: Potential health benefit scam

The Department of Defense Benefits and Entitlements Branch is alerting federal employees of a potential scam by a benefits and retirement planning company called Government Employee Services.

The scam intends to use misinformation as well as fear about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its impact on the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program (FEHB) to influence federal employees to buy their services.

Government Employee Services is in no way affiliated with the federal government. It is a company seeking to get your business through misleading advertisement. In addition, FEHB

Retirement coverage is not altered or impacted by the Affordable Care Act. An employee still has to retire on an immediate annuity and have FEHB coverage five years prior to retirement.

Beware of calls, mailings or emails seeking to "help" you with your federal benefits. Contact your local Human Resource Office (HRO) to verify whether claims about changes to your federal benefits are true or if you are unsure if correspondence came from your agency.

For more information, contact your local HRO or email [dodhra.mc-alex.dcpas.mbx.benefits-contacts@mail](mailto:dodhra.mc-alex.dcpas.mbx.benefits-contacts@mail).

## Missing the paper?

APG News

If your organization is moving and would like to receive the paper at your new location, or if your organization would like to begin receiving the newspaper, send an e-mail to: [usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.apg.imcom.mbx.apg-pao@mail.mil) with the following information:

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- Approximately how many people work at or visit the facility
- The number of papers you would like to receive
- Any additional information

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Include "APG News Delivery Request" in the subject line.



## APG SEVEN DAY FORECAST



## APG NEWS

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or email [yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:yvonne.johnson5.ctr@mail.mil), or contact Reporter Rachel Ponder, 410-278-1149 or email [rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:rachel.e.ponder2.ctr@mail.mil).

Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

### Staff

APG Senior Commander ..Maj. Gen. Bruce T. Crawford  
 APG Garrison Commander .. Col. Gregory R. McClinton  
 Public Affairs Officer ..... Kelly Luster  
 Editor ..... Amanda Rominiecki  
 Assistant Editor..... Yvonne Johnson  
 Contract Photojournalists..... Rachel Ponder  
 ..... Stacy Smith  
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 Website ..... [www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews](http://www.TeamAPG.com/APGNews)

# Travel Fair offers ideas for family fun

By **RACHEL PONDER**

APG News

The community got a head start on spring and summer travel planning during the APG Travel Fair and Spring Bazaar held at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center March 11.

The event, hosted by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Leisure Travel Office (LTO), featured 30 vendors from Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C. The Spring Bazaar included 10 local vendors ranging from jewelry, makeup and clothing to sweet treats and candles. The event also featured door prizes, including a Samsung Galaxy 5 smartphone from event sponsor AT&T.

Jim Dimmer, a representative from Entertainment Cruises, said his company hosts sightseeing tours and specialty, lunch and dinner cruises on the "Spirit of Baltimore" cruise ship in Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Guests can also ride on the "Seadog," a sightseeing speedboat tour. Tickets are available through the MWR LTO.

"We recommend purchasing tickets in advance, because tours book up really quickly in the spring and summer," he said.

Nancy Schwendeman, from the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, said more than 8 million people visit the city annually. For military discount information, Schwendeman recommends contacting the Ocean City Hotel-Motel-Restaurant Association at 410-289-6733. Ocean City, Maryland is less than a three-hour drive from APG.

"There is so much to do year-round in Ocean City," she said. "And the beaches are free."

Thomas Vick, a representative from Luray Caverns, said the travel fair was a great opportunity for those in the military community to learn more about the region.

Luray Caverns, located in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, is a three-hour drive from APG. The caverns, which were declared a federal natural landmark in 1978, feature guided walking tours. The site also features a museum, garden maze, a rope adventure park and a bell tower.

"It is nature's beauty at its best," Vick said of the caverns.



Photo by Molly Blossie

**Seaworld Parks and Entertainment regional sales manager Karen Paul shows Ian Ross, 3, and his mother Kim a 3-D puzzle pamphlet during the MWR Travel Fair March 11.**

Angela N. Colon, a representative from Dutch Wonderland, near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, said the 48-acre amusement park appeals to families with small children. Dutch Wonderland military discount tickets are available online and through the LTO.

For rollercoaster enthusiasts, the LTO sells a variety of amusement park tickets ranging from Six Flags America, Kings Dominion, Busch Gardens, Hershey Park and more.

During the event, attendees said they enjoyed learning about local travel opportunities and shopping at the bazaar.

Ivan Willie, a military retiree, said he plans to take several family trips this year.

"I will support companies that offer military discounts," Willie said. "I am a military discount fanatic."

Lyssa Gremminger from the Communications-Electronics Research, Develop-

ment and Engineering Center (CERDEC) said she attended the event because she is new to the area.

"I wanted to see what I can do with my friends and family when they visit," she said.

Maj. Michelle Lewis from the Army Contracting Command, said she attended to learn about activities she can do with her child.

"I want to check out Ripley's Believe it or Not! Museum [in Baltimore] because they offer a great military discount through MWR," she said. "And we are going to the Thomas the Tank Engine event at the B&O Railroad Museum."

Jennifer Testerman, a recreation assistant who helped organize the fair and bazaar, said most discounts offered through the LTO are available to all Common Access Card (CAC) holders. In addition to selling tickets, throughout the year

the LTO hosts several chartered bus trips to places like New York City and Washington D.C.

"Come see what we have to offer before planning your next trip," she said.

The Leisure Travel Office, located in the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 410-278-4011.

Tickets can also be purchased at the APG South (Edgewood) recreation center, Bldg. E4140, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 410-436-2713.

More information about the APG LTO can be found at <http://www.apgmwr.com/recreation/travel/ltotickets.html> or by emailing [usarmy.apg.imcom.list.apgr-usagmwr-leisure-travel@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.apg.imcom.list.apgr-usagmwr-leisure-travel@mail.mil).

# Women's History Month

*Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives*



## Edgewood CDC director says "my career found me"

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Despite having worked in the child-care industry for the past 18 years, Donna Jacobs, director of the APG South (Edgewood) Child Development Center, did not see her career coming.

The Baltimore native had never heard of Aberdeen Proving Ground before she visited the post during a college field trip when she was attending Harford Community College and majoring in Early Childhood Development.

A business major graduate of Notre Dame of Maryland University (also called the College of Notre Dame) Jacobs had been working in the business/accounting field when she found herself in need of reliable child care. She attended HCC after starting her own home day care. She eventually applied for a position on post and was offered an entry-level flex position as a program assistant in CDC classrooms.

"I was in the business accounting field and I was having issues with child care myself," Jacobs recalled, "so this was kind of thrust upon me. I got into it because I was looking for good people for my children.

"I suppose you could say my career kind of found me because from that point on, life turned in this direction."

Since then, Jacobs has worked every CDC position; gaining a valuable tutelage, she says that pays dividends when dealing with staff, clients and myriad other minute-to-major decision-making challenges.

"It means I know the difficulties, but I also know what is possible because I've been there," she said. "Being tough doesn't make it impossible. I went to school and raised my kids and it wasn't easy by any means."

Army CDCs are operated by Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services, a divi-

sion of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs. As center director, Jacobs oversees the overall operation of the facility and ensures staff, curriculum and training are in compliance with Army and Department of Defense regulations.

She said providing safety, wellbeing and a nurturing environment for the center's children are top priorities.

"First and foremost, we are here for the children," she said. "Sometimes there are other ways to do certain things but it always comes down to what's best for the children. The Army has regulations that cover all aspects of child care and early childhood education.

"The requirements are high. I don't think I understood that when I started and I'm not sure how many parents understand how serious about child care the Army is."

She said employees undergo extensive Army, state and federal background checks, then 18 months of training followed by annual training which is mandatory for the entire staff, from the director,



down.

"I have absolute confidence in my staff," she said. "They're amazing. And not just the CDC staff the CYS staff in general."

She recalled how CYS staff at the neighboring youth center and at the installations' two other CDCs on APG North (Aberdeen) came together to help them through the building's abrupt closure due to burst pipes this winter.

She said when they had to leave the building, CDC staff members

called parents, from home on their personal cell phones, and youth center staff welcomed her workers who turned the gym into classrooms.

Other CYS staff acquired every space available for the center's children in the other CDCs as well as in Family Child Care provider homes.

"The whole CYS organization came together and helped and supported us," Jacobs said, adding that they were able to resume normal operations a week later.

"It was a long week for us and I'm sure it was just as long for the parents, but it was made easier on all of us due to the

help and support of CYS."

She added that the garrison as a whole is cognizant of the importance of the installation's child care facilities.

"On a regular basis, they typically inquire to our needs," she said. "Their support is the best."

Moreover, the overall majority of parental feedback is positive, she said.

"Most seem happy to be here and happy to support us," she said, noting that the PCCA group of volunteers keeps parents involved while keeping the lines of communication open.

Jacob spent all but one of her 18 years at APG in the Edgewood facility. While she was assistant director, she moved to the Bayside facility as a trainer, and then returned to Edgewood as center director.

She said one of the biggest visible changes during her tenure has been the decrease in active-duty families and the increase in civilians.

She describes herself as a "hard working" and "dedicated" leader who takes her responsibilities seriously and said having a strong working relationship with subordinates is vital.

"Part of my responsibility is to ensure they not only understand what is expected of them, but why," she said, "so having a good relationship is essential.

"This is a learning environment. The world is moving faster and it's our job to make sure when children leave here they're prepared for the next level. We do everything we can to prepare them.

"Our parents can be confident in the staff here," she added. "It's hard to lose the stigma of babysitters but they are educated professionals. It really does take a special kind of person to teach children. Not everyone is cut out for it – it's a lot of responsibility – but those who excel.

"I support and recognize every member of my staff. They're awesome. And they make my job easier."



### St. Patrick's Day Awareness Alert

St. Patrick's Day has gone from a one-day holiday to an event celebrated on weekends the entire month of March.

For too many people, St. Patrick's Day has ended in tragedy due to drunk drivers getting behind the wheel. During St. Patrick's Day celebrations between 2009 and 2013, 276 lives were lost in drunk-driving crashes.

In 2013, two out of five crash fatalities over St. Patrick's Day weekend involved drunk driving. And during the post-party hours between midnight and 5:59 a.m. March 18, a staggering 55 percent of crash fatalities involved drunk drivers.

The situation isn't improving. There were 31 drunk-driving related fatalities on St. Patty's Day in 2013 alone. Drunk driving kills more than 10,000 people each year in the nation, and every single one of those deaths is preventable.

Before celebrating St. Patrick's Day this year, decide whether you'll drink or you'll drive. You can't do both.

◆ If you're planning on drinking, now is the time to arrange your ride home. When you head out, leave your keys at home or give them to your sober driver.

◆ If you're planning on driving that night, commit to staying sober.

◆ Look up a local taxi company, and save their number in your phone. It's always a good idea to have a backup plan.

A sober driver will be your luckiest charm this St. Patrick's Day.

For more information, contact Cindy Scott, Army Substance Abuse Program prevention coordinator, at 410-278-4013, or ASAP at 410-278-DRUG; email [cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cynthia.m.scott4.civ@mail.mil) or visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website at [www.NHTSA.gov](http://www.NHTSA.gov).

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# Battalion trains for CBRNE elimination ops

By **WALTER T. HAM IV**  
20th CBRNE Command

The 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) trained for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) elimination operations at Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia Feb. 26 - March 6.

The APG-based technical escort battalion overcame a wide variety of CBRNE threats and exploited mock Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) sites during the annual exercise.

One of only two technical escort battalions in the U.S. Army, the battalion certified two of its CBRNE Response Teams, or CRTs, during the field training exercise.

The battalion is part of the 48th CBRN Brigade, 20th CBRNE Command (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives). The Aberdeen Proving Ground-based 20th CBRNE Command is the DOD's only formation that combats global CBRNE threats.

Maj. Vance M. Brunner, 22nd Chemical Battalion operations officer, said the field training exercise followed an earlier no-notice exercise where CBRNE Response Team 1 flew from Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, to Florida to conduct training missions.

Brunner said the training ranges on Fort A.P. Hill provided a realistic venue for the exercise.

"Fort A.P. Hill is ideal because it is within driving distance of the battalion, has weapon qualification ranges, large training areas and unique Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain sites," Brunner said.

Brunner, who has deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, said the exercise proved the battalion is ready to conduct its life-saving and mission-enabling mission.

"This exercise helped prepare the battalion for large WMD mission sites," Brunner said. "It also prepared the battalion to operate in a non-permissive environment."

The battalion's 12 CBRNE Response Teams are made up of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Soldiers, enabling them to render safe explosive and CBRN threats. The Soldiers also attend advanced training for breaching and confined space



operations. "The teams are [the] Army's premier force for CBRNE exploitation and assessment," Brunner said. "There are no CBRNE targets that these teams cannot exploit and assess for the warfighter."

Lt. Col. Eric B. Towns, commander of the 22nd Chemical Battalion, said his CRT team leaders were able to confront and defeat a variety of challenging scenarios during the exercise.

"The highlight of the exercise was seeing young CBRNE Company Team commanders continue to hone their ability to mission command attached CBRNE forces," Towns said.

Towns said his Soldiers proved their mettle in the field during a late winter snowstorm that shut down local facilities.

"In order to be globally responsive, you have to be able to execute your wartime mission in a variety of condi-



Soldiers from the APG-based 22nd Chemical Battalion (Technical Escort) train for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive elimination operations on Fort A.P. Hill, Virginia, Feb. 26 - March 6. Two of the battalion's CBRNE Response Teams received certification after completion of the training.  
Courtesy Photos

tions," Towns said. "The Soldiers of the Guardian Battalion truly displayed their mental and physical toughness as they

sustained operations on the Weapons of Mass Destruction sites through sleet, snow, hail and rain."

## BY THE NUMB#RS

### National Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month. "Bite into a Healthy Lifestyle" with these nutrition numbers!

**117,000,000,000**

Dollars Americans spend on fast food each year.

**23,000,000+**

Number of Americans who live in food deserts - areas that are more than a mile away from a supermarket.

**3,400**

Milligrams of sodium the average American adult consumes per day; well above the current federal guideline of less than 2,300 mg.

**46.5**

Pounds of fresh fruit Americans consume per year. Apples and bananas are the most consumed fruits in the U.S.

**25**

Years since the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act was passed, requiring all packaged foods to have nutrition labeling.

**20**

Teaspoons of sugar the average American eats in a day. Regular soft drinks are the number one source of added sugars in American diets.

**8**

Recommended number of 8-ounce glasses of water health authorities say people should drink per day. This is called the 8x8 rule.

By **RACHEL PONDER** APG News

Sources: <https://www.heart.org/>; <http://www.ers.usda.gov/>; <http://www.fitness.gov/resource-center/facts-and-statistics/>; [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com)

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**MORE ONLINE** More events can be seen at [www.TeamAPG.com](http://www.TeamAPG.com)

## events&town halls

THURSDAY

### MARCH 19 GARRISON TOWN HALL

The APG Garrison will host a town hall meeting for garrison civilians, contractors and Soldiers at 1:30 p.m. at the post theater.

APG South (Edgewood) Garrison employees can join in via VTC at the Edgewood Conference Center, Bldg. E4810.

Subject matter experts will be available to answer career questions. The agenda includes Future Manpower Outlook, spring and summer events and wellness updates.

All questions can be submitted during the town hall or in advance to Amburr Reese at [amburrj.reese.civ@mail.mil](mailto:amburrj.reese.civ@mail.mil) or to Lisa McClure at [lisa.a.mcclure9.civ@mail.mil](mailto:lisa.a.mcclure9.civ@mail.mil).

TUESDAY

### MARCH 24 EXCELLENCE IN ACQUISITION LECTURE SERIES

The Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) will host retired Lt. Gen. Steven W. Boutelle as part of its Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series at 1 p.m. in Mallette Hall (Building 6008) on APG North (Aberdeen).

Boutelle, a former Army CIO who led the organization now known as PEO C3T from July 1997 to June 2001, will provide his insights on the acquisition challenges we face today during the second installment of the "Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series." This is an invaluable opportunity to hear from one of Army Acquisition's great leaders and we want to encourage the widest possible participation by the APG workforce. This event qualifies for Continuous Learning Points (CLP).

For more information, email [usarmy.apg.peo-c3t.mbx.pao-peoc3t@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.apg.peo-c3t.mbx.pao-peoc3t@mail.mil).

SUNDAY

### MARCH 29 THE LIVING LAST SUPPER

The Palm Sunday Communion Service will reenact Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting "The Last Supper" at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel at 10:15 a.m.

Lunch will immediately follow the service.

For more information, contact Joyce Wood at 410-278-4333 or [joyce.l.wood.civ@mail.mil](mailto:joyce.l.wood.civ@mail.mil).

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY

### APRIL 8-9 ACCESSING HIGHER EDUCATION TRACK TRAINING

Accessing Higher Education Track is a two-day workshop for Transitioning service members in the SFL-Transition program seeking to enhance their career development through higher education opportunities leading to undergraduate/graduate degrees and professional certificates.

The workshop will help transitioning Soldiers identify educational goals, research & compare institutions, and learn about education funding programs and the college application process.

For more information, contact the APG Army Education Center at 410-306-2042 or email education services specialist Tressie Stout at [tressie.d.stout.civ@mail.mil](mailto:tressie.d.stout.civ@mail.mil).

SATURDAY

### MAY 9 SAVE THE DATE - MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

The APG Military Retiree Appreciation Day observance will take place at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center with registration starting at 8 a.m.

The annual event provides a setting where retirees can meet other retirees, obtain health and wellness information, update military ID cards, and receive information about legislative updates, command information and other information relevant to retirees.

The guest speaker will be announced at a later date. Activities will include a question and answer session, booths and exhibits and a nominal-fee lunch.

Check back with the APG News in April for more information.

## meetings&conferences

THURSDAY

### MARCH 19 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS MEETING

The next Society of American Military Engineers Chesapeake Post meeting

will held 11:30 a.m. at the Wetlands Golf Course in Aberdeen.

The featured speaker is Ray DiBerardo, an engineer with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. DiBerardo was a designer of the Field Deployable Hydrolysis System, which was used to destroy the chemical weapons cache in Syria in 2014.

Register and pay securely online at: <https://same-march.eventbrite.com> or call 410-688-0318.

### WARRANT OFFICER ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will host its quarterly meeting noon to 12:45 p.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center, Bldg. 3326, room 102. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m.

For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Owen McNiff at 571-243-6561; 443-861-1936; email [omcniff@yahoo.com](mailto:omcniff@yahoo.com) or visit <http://www.apgwoa.org>.

WEDNESDAY

### MARCH 25 HOW TO SMART START YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

In honor of Women's History Month, Army Community Service will host a Powerful Women in Small Business seminar from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Top of the Bay, Bldg. 30. Attendees can purchase lunch for this one-day event. Future How to Smart Start Your Small Business sessions will be held at ACS Bldg. 2503, Highpoint Road 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 13, Aug. 12 and Nov. 4.

To register, contact the ACS Employment Program manager at 410-278-9669/7552. For more information, visit the ACS website on [www.TeamAPG.com](http://www.TeamAPG.com).

THURSDAY

### MARCH 26 MILITARY OFFICERS OF AMERICA ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Military Officers of America Association (MOAA) Susquehanna chapter will hold its monthly chapter meeting at 510 Johnnys' Restaurant, 510 Market Place, Bel Air at 6:30 p.m. A buffet dinner will start at 7 p.m.

Guest speakers will include Amy Dean and Brian O'Donnell of the Infrastructure Decontamination and Recovery team under the Joint Project Manager for Elimination. The Joint Project Manager for Elimination provides the DOD and other stakeholders with capabilities that include development and fielding of assessment and destruction technologies for chemical weapons; prevention of proliferation of chemical warfare materiel; and contamination management encompassing a broad range of solutions.

Dinner costs \$30 per person. For reservations, contact TJ Staffieri at [tjs3tjs3@gmail.com](mailto:tjs3tjs3@gmail.com), or visit the MOAA Susquehanna Chapter webpage at [www.susquehannamoaa.org](http://www.susquehannamoaa.org).

The MOAA is open to commissioned officers of all the uniformed services. All are welcome to attend the dinner meeting and see what MOAA is all about.

TUESDAY

### APRIL 7 DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY TRAINING SYMPOSIUM

The Defense Acquisition University campus at APG will host a VTC for the DAU's upcoming one-day hot topic training forum. This year's theme is "Achieving Dominant Capabilities through Technical Excellence and Innovation." Frank Kendall, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics is the keynote speaker.

The training symposium will be fed live from Fort Belvoir to APG's campus at 6175 Guardian Gateway from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., with no cost to remote viewers. The symposium provides five Continuous Learning Points (CLP) for continued DOD acquisition certification.

The event offers plenary and classroom training sessions tied to the Better Buying Power 3.0 initiatives. In a period of fiscal challenges and technological opportunities, the training will focus on learning hard skills – training in the latest acquisition policy, practices and techniques that attendees can take back to the workplace and apply.

Seating is limited. To sign up, contact Ben Metcalfe at [benjamin.metcalfe@dau.mil](mailto:benjamin.metcalfe@dau.mil) or 410-272-9471. For more information about the symposium, visit <http://dauaa.org/Symposium2015/Index.htm>.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

### MAY 1 & 2 VETERANS LEGAL CAREER FAIR

Registration is open for employers and

candidates for the Veterans Legal Career Fair to be conducted over two days at the Marriott Metro Center in Washington, D.C.

The event is meant for experienced lawyers who have served in the military or are transitioning out of military service. The event includes panel presentations, a networking reception and a full day of one-on-one interviews.

Candidates should register by March 27 while employers are encouraged to register by March 13.

The goal of the Veterans Legal Career Fair is to help veterans find jobs and to help top employers gain access to a pool of first-rate candidates who have received unique training, skills and legal insights through their military service.

For more information or to register, visit [www.veteranslegalcareerfair.com](http://www.veteranslegalcareerfair.com)

## health&resiliency

THURSDAY

### MARCH 26 PREVENTATIVE CARE INFO SESSION

The C4ISR Wellness Committee will host a Preventative Care Informational Session to explore the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bldg. 6001, second floor, room 224 on the C4ISR campus.

The session is open to military service members, civilians and contractors. C4ISR Slim Down Participants should bring their wellness activity rosters to credit attendance and sign the session sign-in sheet.

For sign language interpreters or other disability-related accommodations, contact the CECOM EEO Office at 443-861-4355 by March 12.

For more information or to request VTC connections, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or [tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil](mailto:tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil).

THURSDAY

### APRIL 23 HOW TO AVOID, DEAL WITH AND ELIMINATE STRESS INFO SESSION

Learn to avoid, deal with and eliminate stress from both your work and personal life by attending a stress informational session hosted by the C4ISR Wellness Committee at the Myer Auditorium, Bldg. 6000 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A guest speaker will provide techniques for managing stress and emotional well-being. A mini interactive yoga demonstration will also be given to relax your mind, body and spirit.

For more information, contact Tiffany Grimes at 443-861-7901 or [tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil](mailto:tiffany.l.grimes.civ@mail.mil).

## ONGOING

### APRIL – MAY TOBACCO CESSATION CLASSES

Kick the habit with help from the Harford County Health Department! Free tobacco cessation classes will be offered at the APG North (Aberdeen) main post chapel, every Wednesday, April 15 to May 20, from noon to 1 p.m.

Class size is limited. For more information, to register or to inquire about leave, contact Gale Sauer at [gale.m.sauer.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:gale.m.sauer.ctr@mail.mil) or 443-861-9260.

SUNDAY

### MAY 24 MD CENTER FOR VETERANS EDUCATION AND TRAINING 20TH ANNUAL 5K/10K RACE

The Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training, Inc., (MCVET) will host the 20th Annual 5K/10K Races starting 7:30 a.m. (5K) and 8:30 a.m. (10K) at the Baltimore War Memorial Plaza, 500 E Fayette Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

For the 5K, pre-registration is \$25; race day registration is \$30. For the 10 K, pre-registration is \$30; race day registration is \$35.

All proceeds benefits the MCVET mission to provide homeless veterans with comprehensive services to enable them to rejoin their communities as productive citizens.

To register, go to [www.mcvet.org](http://www.mcvet.org) or [www.charmcityrun.com](http://www.charmcityrun.com).

For more information, contact MCVET race director Roseline Taylor at 410-576-9626, Ext. 253 or [info@mcvet.org](mailto:info@mcvet.org) or [www.facebook.com/MCVET.Baltimore](https://www.facebook.com/MCVET.Baltimore)

## ONGOING THROUGH 2015 2015 CPR, AED CLASS SCHEDULE

The APG Directorate of Emergency Services has announced the CPR/AED class schedule for 2015. Classes are open

to the entire APG community.

- **April 22** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **May 20** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **June 17** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **July 15** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Aug. 19** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Sep. 16** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Oct. 21** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Nov. 18** – APG North (Aberdeen) Chapel, Bldg. 2485 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- **Dec 16** – APG South (Edgewood) Conference Center, Bldg. E4810 – 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Mike Slayman at 410-306-0566.

## miscellaneous

### ONGOING THROUGH APRIL 10 2015-16 SENIOR SERVICE COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center is currently accepting applications for the 2015-16 SSCF program through April 10. The SSCF Program is a 10-month educational opportunity conducted under the auspices of the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, as well as Huntsville, Alabama and Warren, Michigan.

The SSCF program prepares government civilians at the GS-14/15 levels or equivalent for senior leadership roles by providing training in leadership and acquisition. Program components include completion of DAU's Program Management Course (PMT 401), courses in leadership, applications of acquisition to national defense issues, research in acquisition topics, mentoring, and a distinguished speaker program.

For complete program information and application requirements, please visit: <http://asc.army.mil>. For APG specific program information, please visit: <http://www.dau.mil/sscf/Pages/apg.aspx>

For more information about the program, contact Jim Oman at [james.oman@dau.mil](mailto:james.oman@dau.mil) or 410-272-9470.

### ONGOING SOUTH DAKOTA VETERANS BONUS

South Dakota is paying a bonus to members of the Armed Forces who were legal residents of the state for no less than six months immediately preceding their period of active duty and who served on active duty during one or more of the following periods:

- August 2, 1990 to March 3, 1991 – All active service counts for payment.
- March 4, 1991 to December 31, 1992 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for the Southwest Asia Service Medal counts for payment.
- January 1, 1993 to September 10, 2001 – Only service in a hostile area qualifying for any United States campaign or service medal awarded for combat operations against hostile forces counts for payment.
- September 11, 2001 to a date to be determined – All active service counts for payment.

Veterans with qualifying service from Aug 2, 1990 to Dec 31, 1992 [Desert Storm] may receive one bonus of up to \$500.00. Veterans with qualifying service after Jan 1, 1993 may receive another bonus of up to \$500.00.

Only federal active duty is applicable for bonus purposes. Active Duty for training is not allowed for Bonus purposes.

Applicants living outside of South Dakota may obtain an application by email at [john.fette@state.sd.us](mailto:john.fette@state.sd.us). Please include your branch of the military and dates of service. If you do not have email you may request an application and instructions by writing SD Veterans Bonus, 425 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or by calling 605-773-7251.

# Army to host second acquisition lecture

By **NANCY JONES-BONBREST**  
PEO C3T

Known for adopting new information technologies to meet the demands of the battlefield, now-retired Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle will offer insights for today's Army when he takes the stage at the Excellence in Acquisition lecture series at the APG North (Aberdeen) Mallette Hall Auditorium March 24.

Boutelle led what is now known as the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) at Fort Monmouth, N.J. from 1997 to 2001, before joining the staff of the Army's Chief Information Officer/G-6 just weeks before September 11, 2001.

Throughout his career, the general pushed for a network-centric force that would enable information superiority down to the lowest echelons and improve interoperability across the military. He oversaw the growth of Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below/Blue Force Tracking, the quick-reaction development of the technology that became Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Increment 1, and pushed for increased bandwidth to meet future communications needs.

He introduced the convergence of voice, data and video to the Army, building an enhanced enterprise network infrastructure by establishing the Army Knowledge Online portal and the Defense Knowledge Online portal. Together they provided streamlined access to content for more than six million defense employees.

"I went through defense drawdowns and build-ups," Boutelle said. "What we really found in the drawdown was that we made huge increases in technology when we had no money. Yet, when we're flush with dollars and resources we tend to buy a lot of technology and field a lot

of technology, but I don't think we necessarily create new technologies."

Boutelle will share his experiences during the second installment of the Excellence in Acquisition Lecture Series, which will take place 1 p.m. at the Mallette Hall Auditorium. He plans to discuss such topics as acquisition case studies, how the "center stage" of world order has shifted and what books are on his must-read list.

"Only in periods of emergency have we been able to bring something to Soldiers that they needed quickly," Boutelle said. "Understanding the current acquisition process – and the needs and speed with which the Army must deliver capabilities – is absolutely paramount for us to defeat or neutralize any adversary."

Created by the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T), the lecture series provides an opportunity for former Army acquisition leaders to

share their expertise and engage in discussion with the workforce at APG.

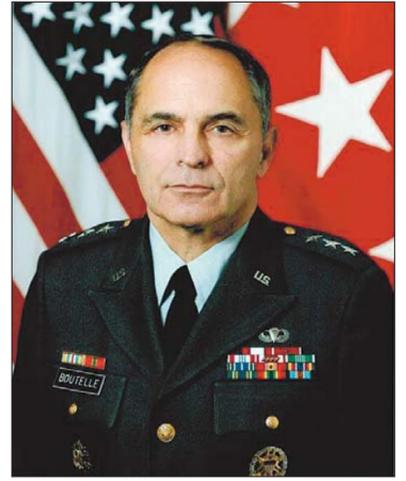
"Each time period in history brings new challenges, but we can't forget

to look back and leverage lessons learned from the past," said Maj. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes, program executive officer for C3T.

"General Boutelle led our organization during a time of constrained budgets but was able to advance remarkable new capabilities. He knew early on how pervasive and reliable information could empower U.S. forces."

At the first lecture in the series, which kicked off on Sept. 30, 2014, retired Lt. Gen. William Campbell reviewed examples of acquisition success stories during a period of declining budgets, discussed the recent history of Army acquisition reform and reminded the workforce

members in attendance that although the acquisition process is often complex, it has also delivered and deployed the world's best and most technically



U.S. Army photo  
Retired Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle will offer insights for today's Army when he takes the stage at the Excellence in Acquisition lecture series at the APG North (Aberdeen) Mallette Hall Auditorium March 24. Boutelle led what is now known as the Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T) at Fort Monmouth, N.J. from 1997 to 2001, before joining the staff of the Army's Chief Information Officer/G-6.

advanced weapons systems.

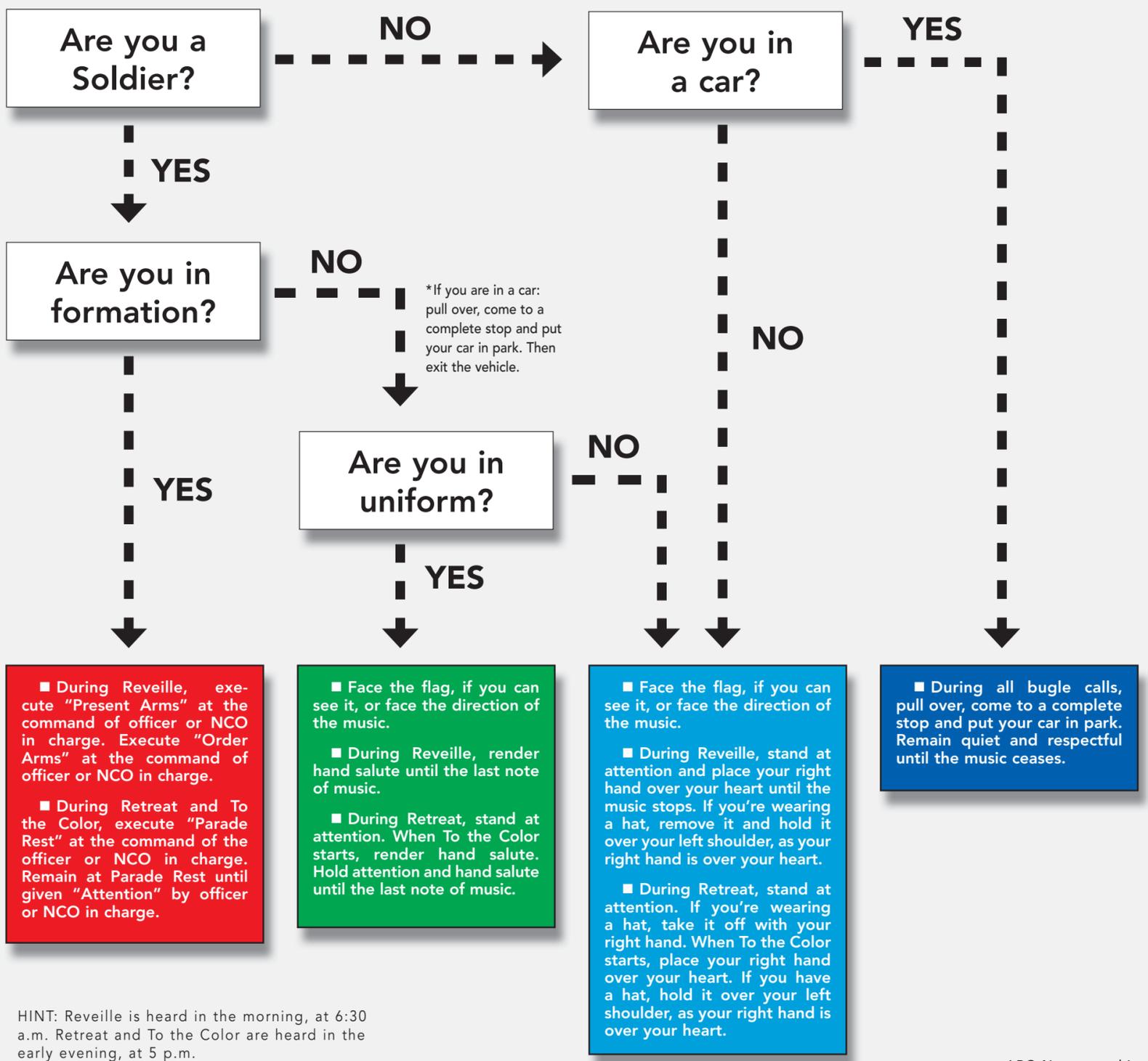
"The real power behind the lecture series is the opportunity to listen to several of our past leaders and apply that to the bigger picture of Army acquisition today," Hughes said.

The lecture series will be held quarterly, focusing on the intersection of acquisition and the Army's command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) technologies. The event is free and open to the entire APG workforce.

**“Only in periods of emergency have we been able to bring something to Soldiers that they needed quickly. Understanding the current acquisition process – and the needs and speed with which the Army must deliver capabilities – is absolutely paramount for us to defeat or neutralize any adversary.”**

**Retired Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle**  
Former leader of organization now known as Program Executive Office for Command, Control and Communications-Tactical

## You hear the bugle call, now what?



APG News graphic



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Click on "ARMY" then "Aberdeen Proving Ground."

# ALL THINGS MARYLAND

## A walk on the wild side

*Maryland Zoo features animals from around the world*



By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

This spring, take a walk on the wild side at the Maryland Zoo.

The Maryland Zoo, formerly known as the Baltimore Zoo, was founded in 1876. It is the third oldest zoo in the nation after the Philadelphia and Cincinnati zoos.

Covering more than 160 acres, the Maryland Zoo is home to more than 1,500 birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles, representing nearly 200 species. Animals are displayed in natural settings replicating their native habitats.

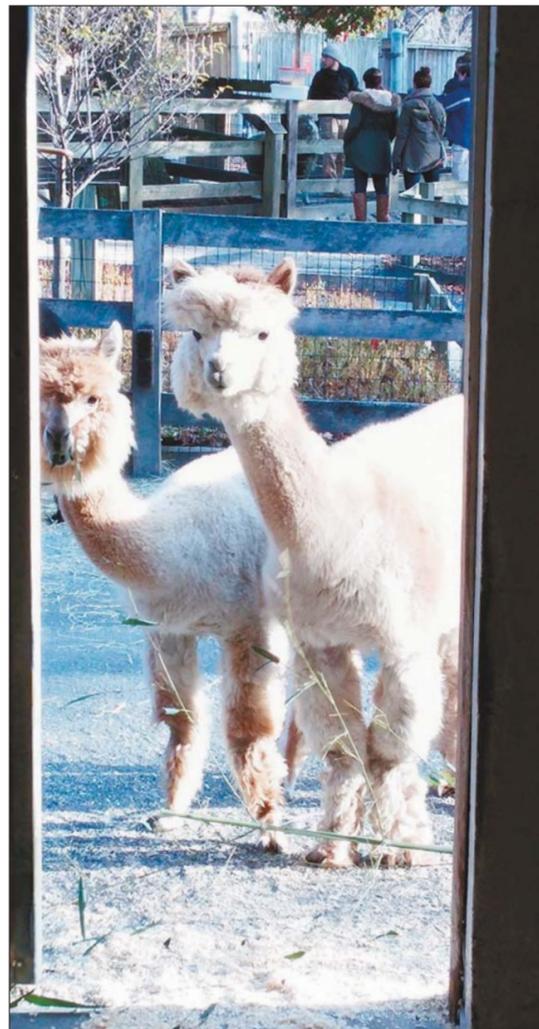
The African Journey, the largest part of the zoo, has a wide range of animals, like chimpanzees, elephants, cheetahs, okapis, warthogs, and zebras that originate from various parts of the continent. In this section visitors have the opportunity to feed a giraffe or ride a camel for a small fee.

Last fall, the zoo opened a new African penguin exhibit called the "Penguin Coast." With 360 degrees of viewing space, this state-of-the-art exhibit is designed to reflect the South African home of these coastal birds. The new exhibit allows guests to get a closer look at this endangered species and includes an enclosed area where visitors can watch penguins swim underwater.

Also new to the zoo is a rare Amur leopard, a 6-year-old female named Sofiya who was transferred from the Beardley Zoo in Connecticut. According to the Maryland Zoo website, there are fewer than forty Amur leopards living in the wild, and they are considered the most critically endangered leopard subspecies.

The Maryland Wilderness section highlights plants and wildlife that are native to Maryland. Explore a life-size model of a cave, with more than a dozen small exhibits including bats, snakes and newts. Another popular attraction is the "Kid Zone," which features a petting zoo.

The Maryland Zoo is also the home of African ravens Rise and Conquer, official team mascots of the Baltimore Ravens.



Photos by Molly Blossie

(Clockwise from top left) A chimpanzee basks in the sunshine at the Maryland Zoo; A pair of llamas peak through an opening in the farmyard section of the zoo; African penguins relax in the water at the new "Penguin Coast" exhibit; Colorful Caribbean flamingos are social birds that live in groups. A flock of thirteen flamingos live at the Maryland Zoo, near the "Penguin Coast" exhibit.

In addition to exhibits, the zoo offers plenty of interactive activities geared to all age groups, including "keeper chats" where visitors get a chance to talk with expert zoo keepers.

The Maryland Zoo is located at 1876

Mansion House Drive in Druid Hill Park. The zoo is open daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors, ages 65 and older and \$11 for children, ages 2-11 years old.

Discount tickets will soon be avail-

able at the APG MWR Leisure Travel Office. Call 410-278-4011/4907 for discount ticket availability and prices.

To learn more about the Maryland Zoo and to view a live "penguin cam" visit [www.marylandzoo.org](http://www.marylandzoo.org).

## Post vending machines to get healthy makeover

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

Vending machines on post will soon be stocked with healthier snacking options.

Col. Joanna J. Reagan, a registered dietitian with the U.S. Army Public Health Command's Health Promotion and Wellness Portfolio, has spearheaded the healthy vending machine initiative at APG.

This initiative is part of USAPHC's Creating Active Communities and Healthy Environments (CACHE) pilot program that focuses on addressing environmental causes of obesity.

To implement this campaign, members of the Community Health Promotion Council's physical health working group analyzed items currently sold in post vending machines. The working group found that most items, including

cookies, snack cakes, chips and candy bars, were high in calories and low in nutrients.

"We want the APG community to have more options," Reagan said.

Under the new healthy initiative, a portion of all items sold in post vending machines will meet the National Automatic Merchandising Association's (NAMA) Fit Pick nutritional guidelines.

Items that qualify as a "Fit Pick" will be clearly labeled and sold on the right-hand side of the machine. These items will include baked chips, vitamin water, dried fruit, cereal bars, nuts, popcorn, trail mix, crackers, prepackaged meals and more.

Reagan added that community members can request particular food items by calling the phone number listed on the vending machine.

"Providing feedback will let our



vending machine representatives know there is a market out there and people are very much interested in healthy options," she said.

Once the initiative is fully implemented on post, it will be evaluated using the Military Nutrition Environ-

ment Assessment Tool or the m-NEAT, a tool that helps Department of Defense communities measure accessibility to healthy food options.

"The long-term goal (of the healthy vending machine initiative) is to take it Army-wide," she said.



### If you see it, report it

Aggressive driving has no place at APG

call 410-306-0550



### Now where did I leave that copy of the APG Newspaper?

You don't have to worry about that Jack. You can check us out online.

[www.TeamAPG.com](http://www.TeamAPG.com)



# Confronting domestic violence

## Employee Assistance Program a valuable tool

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

While there are many reasons to visit the Employee Assistance Program, counselors see the service as a valuable tool in confronting the contributing factors of domestic violence.

According to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), "EAP is a voluntary, work-based program that offers free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals, and follow-up services to employees who have personal and/or work-related problems. EAPs address a broad and complex body of issues affecting mental and emotional well-being, such as alcohol and other substance abuse, stress, grief, family problems, and psychological disorders.

"EAP counselors also work in a consultative role with managers and supervisors to address employee and organizational challenges and needs. Many EAPs are active in helping organizations prevent and cope with workplace violence, trauma, and other emergency response situations."

Patricia Coburn, an EAP coordinator with the APG Garrison's Army Substance Abuse Program, called the EAP a "gateway to obtain professional guidance and counseling for a range of problems and concerns." She said the EAP promotes employee well-being and supports supervisors in helping employees handle problems that may affect work performance.

"Most importantly, it's confidential," Coburn said, noting that while supervisors can strongly recommend or encourage employees to use the EAP, it is not mandatory and no one can be forced to use the program. Once they do, however, an important hallmark of EAP counseling is to protect the privacy of the client.

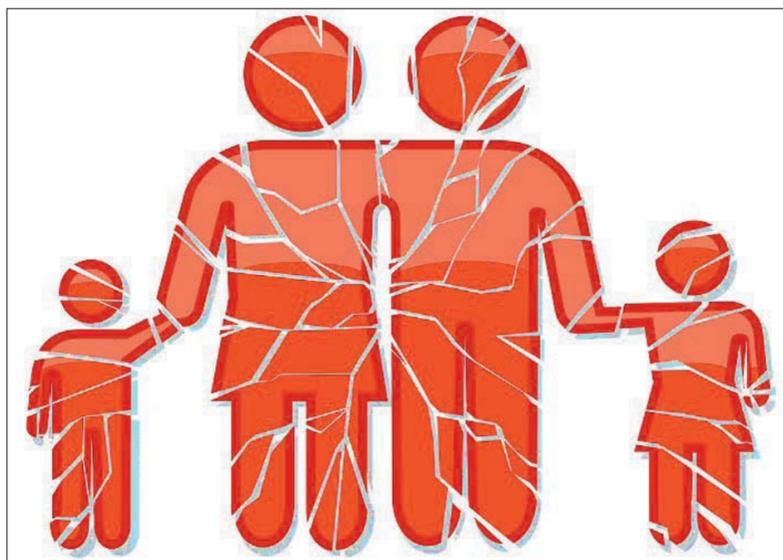
"Your supervisor does not have to be informed of your decision to come to EAP for counseling," Coburn said.

### Referrals

Clients can be self-referred, medically referred or referred by their supervisor, Coburn said.

"Sometimes managers or supervisors will suggest EAP when productivity is impacted.

"When domestic violence is a present-



**Sometimes, when you don't know where to turn, simply talking things over with a professional counselor can be a step in the right direction toward resolution.**

**Patricia Coburn**

Employee Assistance Program coordinator

ing problem, initially, the focus is on a safety assessment, which is critical. We might have to determine if the person is in a safe place to live or look at other ways to avoid physical harm."

"The EAP will refer the client to the Army Community Service Victim Advocacy program and coordinate services and follow-up."

"This is a valuable resource and there is no cost like health insurance or co-pays.

"Everyone has problems," she added. "There may be times when you require assistance for personal issues that are distracting you from being fully productive at work. Sometimes, when you don't know where to turn, simply talking things over with a professional counselor can be a step in the right direction toward resolution."

She added that arrangements can be

made to accommodate clients who work on APG South (Edgewood) where there is no EAP office.

"We are also responsive to Edgewood," she said.

### Adverse performance

Along with domestic violence, job effectiveness can be adversely impacted by a range of issues including substance abuse, mental or emotional problems, family responsibilities, financial or legal issues, child/elder needs, and much more.

EAP helps by assisting employees and families with problems or concerns that affect job performance. Coburn said the resolution of issues creates a healthier workplace for the employee and employer.

### EAP FAQs:

**How do you contact an EAP coordina-**

**tor?** To schedule an appointment contact the EAP office at 410-278-1762/5319. Appointments are available 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Accommodations are made for those unable to attend during these hours. Walk-ins are welcome, acceptable and common.

**Who is eligible?** The EAP is available to DOD civilians and their family members; spouses and adult family members of active-duty military; and military and civilian retirees.

**Will using EAP affect my job?** Seeking assistance from EAP has no bearing on job security or promotional opportunities. However, unresolved problems could impact your job. Coming to EAP early to resolve problems before they interfere with job performance helps employees remain effective and productive.

To sum it up, Coburn said, the EAP is a short term problem-solving service that provides a confidential assessment of a personal problem or concern. EAP coordinators and clients discuss everything from tensions in personal relationships to difficult challenges on the job. Coordinators help clients determine effective ways to improve and assist in locating resources to help.

Coburn and EAP Coordinator Robin Stokes are located in Bldg. 2477 Chesapeake Avenue on APG North (Aberdeen). For more information or to make an appointment, call Coburn at 410-278-1762 or [patricia.r.coburn2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:patricia.r.coburn2.civ@mail.mil) or Stokes at 410-278-5319 or [robinstine.stokes.civ@mail.mil](mailto:robinstine.stokes.civ@mail.mil).

# MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION



## Upcoming Activities

### SAVE THE DATE 2K COLOR FAMILY FUN RUN

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015**

Registration is open.  
A 2K color run is scheduled for Saturday, April 18 from 9 a.m. to noon in celebration of Month of the Military Child at the APG North (Aberdeen) Youth Center, Bldg. 2522. The event is free. Register online at <https://eventbrite.com>.  
For more information, contact: Stacie Umbarger at [stacie.e.umbarger.naf@mail.mil](mailto:stacie.e.umbarger.naf@mail.mil) or call 410-278-2857. REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Please visit the Parent Central Office, Bldg 2503 Highpoint Road, second floor, rooms 210/211/209, or call 410-278-7571/7479 to register.

### CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES SKIES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED THROUGH AUGUST 1

APG CYSS is looking for qualified volunteers to provide classes for children and youth ages 2-15. We are currently seeking Art and Cooking instructors for the summer. CYSS offers a free training program to instructors suitable to use for future employment. A background clearance is required.  
SKIES will work with instructors to assist in days and times which are most convenient for the instructor as much as possible.  
For more information, contact SKIES Director, Shirelle Womack at [shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil](mailto:shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil) or at 410-278-4589.

### MOMMY AND ME YOGA APRIL 13-MAY 18TH

APG MWR will offer a six-week series of Mommy and Me Yoga Classes starting April 13, every Monday, from 9-9:45 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) recreation center.  
Open to mom (or dad!) and a child ages 2 to 4-years-old, Mommy and Me classes are a fun way to reconnect with your body while enjoying time with your young one. It's a great way to take part in an understanding community of other parents.  
For more information, contact SKIES at 410-278-4589/1399.

### SAT PREPARATION CLASSES MARCH 26 – APRIL 30

Get ready for the SATs with Sue Faslold, who works with students of all levels to prepare them for all areas of the SATs: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing. Online video chat small-group sessions offered in the Aberdeen Youth

Center, Tech Lab.  
Winter Session: Every Thursday, March 26 - April 30 (SAT Test Date: May 2)  
The preparation class does not include the official exam. Each class is limited to five students per session.  
AGES: 14-18 years  
COST/FEE: \$225 (this includes the cost of the SAT Prep Book)  
For more information, contact Shirelle Womack at 410-278-4589 or [shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil](mailto:shirelle.j.womack.naf@mail.mil).

### PRE-TODDLER AGE CDC OPENINGS

Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) offer active duty military, and DOD civilians and contractors a comprehensive program to assist with full-day child care needs.  
The APG programs currently have immediate full-time child care openings at the Aberdeen and Bayside CDCs for children aged 13 to 16-months-old. Participants must be registered with the Parent Central Office. Fees are based on the total family income.  
For more information contact the Parent Central Office at 410-278-7479 or 410-278-7571.

Through Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum and TS Gold, our installation helps children work with their strengths, interests, and each other, to feel good about themselves, and to grow as individuals. Activities are offered in the areas of oral language, social/emotional, physical, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, science & technology, social studies, arts and English language acquisition. Sign up your child today.

### COMMUNITY RECREATIONS PAINT AND SIP CLASS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Learn to paint while enjoying your favorite beverage and snack at a Paint and Sip Class at Ruggles Club House 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person, and glassware, paint and brushes will be provided. Tickets are available in the Leisure Travel Office or on the MWR website [www.apgmwr.com](http://www.apgmwr.com).  
For more information, call 410-278-4011/3931.

### SPORTS & RECREATION PAY DAY SCRAMBLE APRIL 3

At the request of Team APG golfers, Ruggles Golf Course will now host a once-a-month Pay Day Scramble from 1 to 7 p.m.  
April 3 will serve as the inaugural Pay Day 4-person Scramble. Sign up as a team or individually. Registration will begin at 11 a.m. Shotgun start at noon. Awards and prizes will be given out at

6 p.m.  
The scramble will cost \$35 for annual members and active-duty military, and \$50 for all other players. Price includes on-course lunch and beverages, and prizes.  
For more information contact the Golf Shop at 410-278-4794.

### ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE CREATING A SOLID SPENDING PLAN

Make plans to attend this free class to learn how to balance your finances. This

information can help you stay disciplined and organized financially, which is the first step to knowing your overall financial health. In this easy to follow one-hour class, whether employed or unemployed, you will get the information you need to create and maintain your personal financial goals.  
Class will be held on the following dates from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Bldg. 2503:  
▪ Wednesday, June 17  
▪ Wednesday, Sept. 9  
▪ Wednesday, Nov. 18  
Registration is required. To reserve a seat call ACS 410-278-9669/7572.

### NOW ACCEPTING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS THROUGH MARCH 23

APG organizations/units are requested to submit up to five nominees for the opportunity to be selected as the Volunteer of the Year in each of the following categories:  
▪ Youth (17 years of age or younger)  
▪ Family Members  
▪ Active Duty Military  
▪ Retirees  
▪ DoD Civilian Employees.  
Period of performance should cover April 2014 - March 2015. Volunteers must be currently active, providing service for APG and may be provided in organizations other than those to which they are assigned. Volunteer service is characterized as contributions beyond what would be expected due to one's position in a unit or place of employment.  
Nominations are due Monday, March 23 and can be submitted at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015\\_APG\\_Volunteer-of-the-Year](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015_APG_Volunteer-of-the-Year).  
Awardees will be honored at the Volunteer of the Year ceremony at Top of the Bay April 16.

**Story Time**  
April 3, 2015  
10:30-11:30 am  
Bayside Community Center  
with Guest Storyteller MG Crawford, APG Senior Commander  
Stories for both pre-schoolers and school-aged children  
Contact [apg.library@us.army.mil](mailto:apg.library@us.army.mil) or 410-278-3417 for more information  
For more information contact [apg.library@us.army.mil](mailto:apg.library@us.army.mil) or 410-278-3417 for more information

APGMWR Presents

# Paint and Sip Class

Learn to paint while enjoying your favorite beverage and snack

**Thursday  
March 26  
6:30 - 9:30 pm**  
Ruggles Club House  
5600 Maryland Avenue, APG  
Doors open at 5:30  
Painting Instruction begins at 6:30

\$35 per person  
Glassware, paint, brushes, and instructor will be provided by Spirited Sisters Studio

Tickets on sale:  
LTO and MWR Website.

For information contact  
LTO 410-278-4011/3931

# EASTER BRUNCH

**April 5, 9:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**  
TOP OF THE BAY, 30 PLUMB POINT LOOP

**Breakfast Buffet:**  
Omelet Station w/ Assorted fillings, Waffles & Toppings, Sausage Gravy & Biscuits, Home fries, Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Bacon, Grits, muffins & Cold Cereal, Carving Stations of Roast Beef & Ham

**Lunch Buffet:**  
Salad Station, Seafood Newburg, Chicken Marsala, Rice Pilaf, Garlic Mashed Red Skin Potatoes, Vegetable Blend & Sautéed Green Beans

**Dessert Station:**  
Featuring Fresh Fruits and Assorted Desserts

Adults are \$27.95  
Children 6 - 12 years \$12.95  
Children 5 and under free

Easter Bunny will be making his annual appearance 9:30 a.m to 2:00 p.m.

Seating is limited and Reservations are required. Reservations can be made by going on line to <https://webtrac.mwr.army.mil/webtrac/apgreetrac.html> or by calling 410-278-5915/2552/3062

# Popular WWII cartoon has roots at APG

By **STACY SMITH**  
APG News

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a bill making the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) an official part of the Armed Forces. Thus, the Women's Army Corps (WAC) was born.

Aberdeen Proving Ground welcomed its first group of WACs on May 12, 1943.

WACs were assigned to the Ordnance Department, Chemical Warfare Service and the Army's chemical laboratories, often doing work that was otherwise reserved for men.

Despite the indispensable role members of the WAC played during the war effort, the Army and the American public initially had difficulty accepting the concept of women in uniform. The military needed to find a way to make WACs relatable; they found their solution in Winnie the WAC.

The cartoon character Winnie the WAC was the brainchild of Cpl. Vic Herman, a Soldier who was then training at APG.

Herman was an advertising cartoonist and illustrator before World War II who found early success with his creation of the Borden Dairy Company mascot, Elsie the Cow. The editor of APG's camp newspaper, "The Flaming Bomb," interviewed Herman and persuaded him to produce a cartoon for the weekly paper.

According to the historical office of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Herman wanted a WAC member to be the subject of the cartoon series. He chose 23-year-old Pfc. Althea Semanchik from Duryea, Pennsylvania.

Semanchik was more than just a pretty face. After completing a course in higher mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania, she was assigned to the Instrument Section of the Fuze Chronograph Department. She worked as a "computer," plotting azimuths and computing firing ranges to determine the path and hitting power of shells.

"Little did I realize when I started posing for Vic Herman that I would derive so much enjoyment out of it," Semanchik wrote in a personal memoir, now housed as part of the Veterans History Project in the Library of Congress.

Herman's Winnie the WAC creation garnered national attention and was even featured in the March 19, 1945 issue of "Life" magazine: "As a combination cartoon character and GI pin-up girl, Winnie

is an Army Ordnance WAC who appears in 1,200 member papers of the Army's Camp Newspaper Service. Although she has been a WAC for one and a half years, her attitude toward Soldiers is far from military."

Though considered sexist by today's standards, the cartoon served as a morale booster during the war and also helped the public warm to the idea of women serving in the military.

The cartoon won Aberdeen's third annual USO-sponsored "Ordnance Joe Contest of 1945." An Army Service Forces press release at that time described the cartoon as the "dark horse" of the contest, which surprisingly garnered more than 200 votes.

As part of this recognition, Herman and Semanchik received a three-day pass to New York City where they met Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia and movie actor Dick Powell.

"It was all very thrilling when a few members of the staff from public relations told me the cartoon won the "Ordnance Joe Contest" and that I, as the model, was going to New York City for three days of adventure – camera, lights, luncheons, meeting celebrities, and going to the theatre," Semanchik wrote.

Semanchik was honorably discharged from the Army in 1946.

More than 150,000 American women served in the WAC during World War II. WACs were the first women other than nurses to serve within the ranks of the Army. The WAC was disbanded in 1978, and all units were integrated with male units. A bit of their legacy lives on through Winnie the WAC.

(Top) Pfc. Althea Semanchik, a member of the Women's Army Corps stationed at APG during World War II, salutes alongside her cartoon likeness "Winnie the WAC" during a meet and greet with actor Dick Powell in New York City.

(Bottom left) Pfc. Althea Semanchik, poses for cartoonist Cpl. Vic Herman. The Winnie the WAC cartoon helped the public warm to the idea of women serving in the military.

(Bottom right) An example of a typical "Winnie the WAC" cartoon featured weekly in the Army's Camp Newspaper Service, though considered sexist by today's standards, served as a morale booster during the war.

Courtesy photos



# Program offers opportunity to become Army nurse

## Enlisted Soldiers can pursue nursing degree, become Army officer

By **VIRGINIA SINCLAIR**  
U.S. Army 1st Medical Recruiting Battalion

After eight years as a combat medic, then Staff Sgt. Clinton Bunker decided to advance in his career and obtain his nursing degree and become an Army officer.



Bunker

As a nurse in the U.S. Army, 1st Lt. Bunker, now works in the intensive care unit at Blanchfield Army Community Hospital at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

"I wanted to work in a hospital," Bunker said, "and (as a combat medic) I worked with a couple of physician assistants who advised me to go into the Interservice Physician Assistant Program. But when I compared that program to the AECP (Army Enlisted Commissioning Program) I decided the AECP was a better fit for what I wanted to do.

"The nursing program allowed me the ability to choose the school I want-

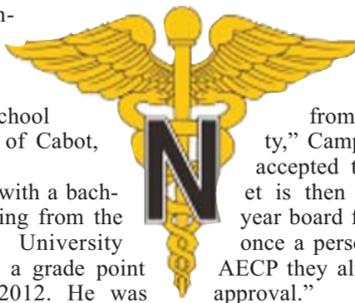
ed," Bunker continued. "It also gave me a chance to get my family together. I chose to go to a school near my home town of Cabot, Arkansas."

Bunker graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing from the Arkansas Technical University Nursing School with a grade point average of 3.7 in 2012. He was inducted into the International Honor Society for Nursing upon graduation.

"Maintaining your grades while in nursing school is critical to remaining in the program," said Maj. James Campbell, AECP manager, Health Services Directorate, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Kentucky. "While in school the student retains the rank they held when entering the program. They are assigned to a company at Fort Sam Houston, [Texas] but their only job is to be a student."

As a program manager Campbell isn't responsible for recruiting the AECP participants. That is done by Medical Recruiting Brigade recruiters throughout the U.S., Germany and Puerto Rico. However, once in the program Campbell advises the student on all AECP requirements and mentors them about opportunities and responsibilities as a U.S. Army nurse.

Since the program can take anywhere from 14 to 24 months to complete, the move to a university is considered a PCS. Currently, those in school will receive up to \$18,000 per year for education. In addition, they continue to receive the pay and benefits matching their rank.



"Each prospective candidate must have a conditional letter of acceptance from an approved university," Campbell explained. "Once accepted their application packet is then sent to a one-time-a-year board for approval. This way, once a person is accepted into the AECP they already have the college approval."

Spc. Athanasia Ashley chose a university in South Carolina instead of one closer to her home in Patterson, Georgia when she found out the state had additional academic requirements that would have kept her in school longer.

"I just did a Google search for nursing schools and came up with Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina," Ashley said. "I started school in January 2013 and graduated on December 13, 2014. Right now I am waiting for a class date to go to Basic Officer Leader Course, then I will be on assignment as a nurse."

According to Campbell, all AECP graduates enter the U.S. Army Nurse Corps as a medical-surgical nurse. After one-and-a-half to two years they are eligible to move into a nursing specialty if they so choose. Both Bunker and Ashley say they hope to become certified-registered nurse anesthetists in the future.



Ashley

Campbell said the AECP is open to members of the National Guard, the Army Reserve, and the active-duty Army. While being a Soldier is a requirement of the program, having experience in a medical field is not. Although Bunker was a combat medic and Ashley joined the Army in 2009 as a medical laboratory technician, Campbell says anyone with a desire to become a nurse can apply as long as the prerequisites are met.

Since contacting a recruiter with the Medical Recruiting Brigade is the first step in this process Campbell recommends interested candidates contact the local medical recruiting center.

According to Campbell recruiters from local recruiting centers will provide several briefings on the AECP at military installations in the months ahead. However, it is not necessary to wait for the briefing to begin the process.

To find an MRB recruiter near you just go to [www.healthcare.goarmy.com](http://www.healthcare.goarmy.com) and select the "Contact a Recruiter" option. Then choose AMEDD (medical) in the "My Interest" drop down menu, put in your zip code and click on the "Search" button.

Upon completion of the program AECP graduates owe the U.S. Army four years of service. Although National Guard, Army Reserve and active-duty Soldiers are eligible to enter the program, Campbell said that the four years after graduation must be completed as an active-duty U.S. Army health care provider.

The application deadline, (for a completed packet) for AECP in FY15 is July 1, 2015.

## See Something

Cut along dotted lines and fold in middle for use as wallet reference Card.

Provided by the INTEL DIV/DPTMS

## Say Something

### Installation Watch Card

**Awareness is key! Everyone is a sensor.**

**Do: Observe and Report**

- Unusual or suspicious activity or suspected surveillance.
- Unusual questions or requests for information relating to capabilities, limitations, or operational information.
- Unusual vehicles operating in or around the Installation.
- Unusual phone calls, messages, or e-mails.
- Unusual contacts on or off post.
- Unusual aerial activity near or around the Installation.
- Any possible compromise of sensitive information.

**Do Not**

- Discuss any aspect of military operations or planning.
- Discuss military capabilities or limitations.
- Discuss FP measures, capabilities, or posture.
- Disclose any information related to unit deployments.

**Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police.**

**APG North 410-306-2222**

**APG South 410-436-2222**

Off post in Md. call 1-800-492-TIPS or 911

Your call may save lives!

# Iron Eagle competitors soar

Story and photos by  
**YVONNE JOHNSON**  
APG News

Nearly 50 installation service members and civilians who dared to test the limits of their endurance participated in the first Iron Eagle Competition at the APG South (Edgewood) Hoyle Gym March 13.

Capt. Joanna Moore of Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic said the event was in keeping with promotion of the Army Performance Triad goals of sleep, activity and wellness.

The competition consisted of five events: push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, dips and ladder drills, which replaced the 400-meter dash due to wet conditions outdoors.

Calling them “the cream of the crop,” Moore thanked the participants before detailing the rules of competition.

“This event will be repeated in the fall so don’t be discouraged if you don’t earn an eagle this time,” she said.

Male and female repetition requirements differed but none according to age. For example, men were required to complete 75 push-ups within two minutes and women had to do 50 in the same amount of time, regardless of age.

Failure to complete the required repetitions for two events meant disqualification. Forty-eight personnel participated but only seven met all five requirements.

Many of the competitors said they work out regularly and that they were intrigued when the call went out for Iron Eagle competitors.

“I came out just to see where I am fitness-wise,” said Staff Sgt. Antoine Echols of the Army Contracting Command.

“I figured it would be something fun to do. I’m creeping up in age so I’ve got to keep moving,” said civilian Scott Lubag of Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense.

“The idea was challenging and I’m a competitor,” said Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center civilian Sandy Sanders.

John Cambre a U.S. Army Public Health Command civilian said he came out “just for the fun of it.”

They also said they’d be back for



more in the fall.

Master Sgt. Brad Burgess, Public Health Command retention NCO, who won an Iron Eagle said he simply “enjoyed the sense of competition.”

“I just wanted to see if I could do it,” added Vy Dinh, a General Dynamics contractor.

Most said the ladder drills event was the most demanding of the competition. It required runners to line up on one end of the gym and run to cones placed one-third, one half and the full length of the court. They had to return to the starting point after reaching each cone before continuing. Four times.

Capt. Tarik Jones of A Battery, 3rd Air Defense Artillery (JLENS), another Iron Eagle recipient, said he was fairly confident about his endurance because he used to run track.

“We always train for this,” said Cpt. Trenholm Rice of the 1st Area Medical Laboratory. “This is how we set ourselves apart from the rest. I’m very satisfied with my performance.”



“The whole event was good but that last one was pretty tough,” added Staff Sgt. Randolph Miguel of KUSAHC.

I think I did okay,” said Mellina Stephen, a PHC contractor. “I liked my overall performance, though the sit-ups

were tough.”

APG Garrison Commander Col. Gregory McClinton and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams presented the Iron Eagle awards at the end of the competition.

(Above) Staff Sgt. Hippolyte Tavares, a grader from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic critiques form as civilian Scott Lubag of the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense grinds out push-ups during the Iron Eagle Fitness Challenge at Hoyle Gym March 13.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Randolph Miguel of KUSAHC concentrates on his sit-up.

## Edgewood power plant construction to start soon

By **STACY SMITH**  
APG News

Construction is set to soon begin on a new combined heat and power (CHP) plant that will replace the Harford County Waste to Energy Plant’s municipal solid waste burning facility on APG South (Edgewood) in 2016.

Devon Rust, Directorate of Public Works installation energy manager, said the new plant will use CHP technology to co-generate steam and electricity using a turbine similar to a jet engine. The turbine will generate electricity and burn natural gas for steam instead of burning solid waste. The steam, in turn, will generate APG’s heat, hot water, and humidity controls.

With the creation of the new plant, the installation will “have as much steam capacity as it’s losing from the waste to energy plant. But it will also generate half of Edgewood’s electric load, so it’s more efficient,” Rust said.

She noted that boiler steam production works at a rate of 51 percent efficiency, from the burning process to energy output. A plant that uses CHP technology, however, works at a 75 percent fossil fuel efficiency, a 24 percent increase.

The new combined heat and power plant on APG South (Edgewood) will be **24% more efficient** than the current boiler plant.

The plant’s construction will have some impact on day-to-day life at APG South (Edgewood).

“There’s definitely going to be some times when there’ll be road closures or detours,” said Jeff Presgraves, DPW contracting officer representative. Presgraves added that all traffic flow changes will be properly handled by the Directorate of Emergency Services, and road closures and traffic plans will be posted through APG’s social media sites.

Steam line work, which involves

repair and replacement around the southern portion of Edgewood’s airfield, will be completed over the summer. Presgraves said the construction area will stretch about 2,200 feet along Otto Road as the project installs new infrastructure to supplement the 10 mile loop.

“We’re going to be trenching along the road, it’s [the construction] going to be visible, and we’re also going to be getting pipe deliveries and moving pipe into place, and so there’s going to be heavy equipment along that road,”

Rust added.

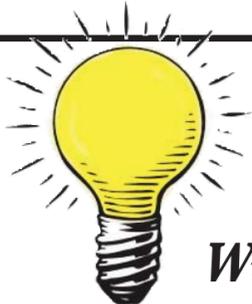
She said with the closing of the waste burning facility, the usual traffic from trash trucks transporting waste out of Edgewood will disappear; a change that is likely to please many local residents.

Leftover waste from the burning facility will be directed to an alternative transfer station in Baltimore County.

The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority (NMWDA), which owns the old plant building, is currently negotiating with the government to determine if the building will stand or come down when the lease expires in three years.

Funding for the CHP construction project was provided by an Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) and supplemented by a U.S. Department of Energy grant awarded to DPW.

Inquiries about the construction project should be directed to either Jeff Presgraves, at 410-306-1848, jeffery.a.presgraves.civ@mail.mil; Barry Fahr, contractor, at 443-206-4753, barry.k.fahr@jci.com; or Devon Rust, at 410-306-1125, devon.a.rust.civ@mail.mil.



**Have a great idea for a story?**

Know about any interesting upcoming events?

*Wish you saw more of your organization in the paper?*

**The APG News accepts story ideas and content you think the APG community should know about.**

- Story ideas or content must be geared toward the greater APG community and cannot appear to endorse any private company.
- The deadline for content to appear in an upcoming issue of the APG News is the **Thursday PRIOR** to publication. The APG News cannot guarantee submissions received after the Thursday prior to publication will appear in the next issue of the paper.
- Send story ideas or pre-written content to [amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil](mailto:amanda.r.rominiecki.civ@mail.mil) or call 410-278-7274 for more information.
- Please note, the APG News editor reserves the right to (1) reject any content deemed inappropriate, irrelevant or against regulation, (2) delay the publication of submitted material if it is not timely and (3) edit or shorten content for space and style reasons without altering the meaning of the submission.

# THIS WEEK IN APG HISTORY

## APG NEWS

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Take a look back in time as the APG News explores what made the headlines around APG during this week 10, 25 and 50 years ago. This week's APG News masthead is from 1965.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News

2015  
2010  
2000  
1990  
1980  
1970  
1960  
1950

### 10 Years Ago: March 17, 2005



(Left) Officials in this 2003 photo inspect reactors in the Process Neutralization Building of the Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility which marked the destruction of the last batch of mustard agent on March 11, 2005.

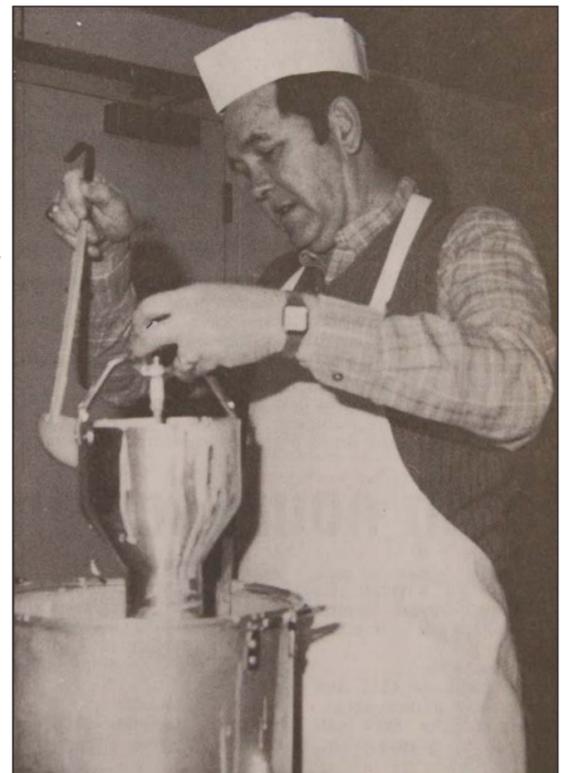


(Above) From left, Lt. Gen. James L. Campbell, Pentagon director of the Army Staff, slips E-7 shoulder boards onto newly-promoted Sgt. 1st Class Angela Howze of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion as her husband, retired 1st Sgt. Reginald Howze assists during her promotion ceremony at the Gunpowder Club.

### 25 Years Ago: March 14, 1990



(Above) Maj. Gen. George H. Akin, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, right, signs his donation to Army Emergency Relief as Capt. Brenda Matthews, TECOM AER chairperson, looks on.



(Right) William H. Allbritten, director of the Plans, Training and Mobilization Directorate prepares pancake batter in the chapel kitchen during the APG Support Activity prayer breakfast.

### 50 Years Ago: March 18, 1965

(Below) Master Sgt. Horace Absher of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School, smiles about returning to active duty after being retired nine years under an Army Regulation that permits honorably discharged personnel to return to active duty in occupations that are in critical demand.



(Above) Soldiers from the Second U.S. Army's Preventive Medicine Support Element at Kirk Army Hospital, from left, Spc. Robert Kennedy, Capt. Jonathan Ostrow and Spc. Joseph Lyons, secure samples of water from Romney Creek during a bacterial survey.

# APG Senior Service College fellows learn from industry organization

APG Senior Service College Fellowship Program

APG Senior Service College fellows visited W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc. Feb. 27 as part of the Defense Acquisition University's Senior Service College Fellowship Program (SSCFP).

Fellows visit four private industry organizations during the academic year to gain an appreciation for the ways different organizations approach innovation, technological advancement, problem-solving, leadership and organizational culture.

Fellows Matt Lee, Bill Leonard, Gary Lichvar, Ayo Omololu, Lisa Sanders, Oral Walker, Randy Wheeler and Jennifer Worton were accompanied by Jim Oman, APG SSCFP director and Ben Metcalfe, APG SSCFP coordinator during the visit to Gore's Barksdale facility in Newark, Delaware.

According to Metcalfe, the visit expanded upon course readings and case studies the fellows had completed as part of the fellowship program.

During the visit, the fellows toured the facility, learned of the company's history, growth and several of its better-known

products including GORE-TEX, a fabric found in jackets, shoes, gloves and several approved military clothing items.

While Gore representatives provided insight from several areas including product management, market development, sales, strategic communications and human resources, much of the day focused on human resources, culture and innovation.

The fellows also had the opportunity to visit a second Gore facility in Elk Mills, Maryland to learn how the company's materials and products are examined through an extensive series of tests.

"The fellows found the visit to Gore to be time well spent and a tremendous learning experience," Oman said. "It will undoubtedly be useful to each fellow as they make the transition to alumni and move into positions of greater responsibility."

**APG Senior Service College fellow Ayo Omololu examines the GORE-TEX field jacket during a visit to W.L. Gore & Associates, one of four visits fellows will make to private industry organizations during the academic year.**

Photo by Jim Oman



## Army researching uniforms that automatically decontaminate

Story and photo by **C. TODD LOPEZ**  
Army News Service

One day, Soldiers may wear uniforms and chemical protective suits that decontaminate themselves and are cool enough to wear for extended periods.

Researchers, such as chemist David McGarvey, Ph.D., at the Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, or ECBC, on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, are part of a team led by the Natick Soldier Systems Center that is developing just those technologies.

The idea is that uniform items are pre-treated with a chemical that can render things harmless including nerve or blister agents.

"We have collaborators at the Air Force Research Laboratory that design reactive chemical components that can be placed on fabrics," McGarvey said. "If Soldiers are in the field, they may not know they have been contaminated. They might be going through a foliage area that had been previously contaminated, something might brush off on the uniform, or they might be in a position where logistically they can't get to a decontamination area - either because of the mission or because there isn't a decontamination setup available. We are trying to increase Soldier survivability through that type of capability."

In such cases, McGarvey said, the chemicals built into the Soldier's uniform begin working immediately to neutralize that contamination.

McGarvey is not developing those reactive components himself. Instead, he is taking swatches of uniform fabric - just one centimeter square - that have been treated with those reactive chemicals, applying one milligram of simulated chemical warfare agent - or the real thing - and then using a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer to determine what those chemical warfare agents are broken down into when they come in contact with the fabric treatment.

What he wants to determine is how the reactive agents work, and what is created as part of the reaction - and if the byproducts of that reaction are themselves dangerous to Soldiers.

"We are able to observe the chemical weapon material and we are able to identify the breakdown products and determine how well it works for decontamination," McGarvey said. "We determine how effective the fabrics are at doing their job, and determine what the



**Chemist David McGarvey, Ph.D., of the Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at APG, inserts a swatch of fabric into a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer. The swatch of uniform fabric has been treated with chemicals that can break down chemical warfare agents. The spectrometer is used to determine what those chemical warfare agents are broken down into when they come in contact with the fabric treatment.**

breakdown products are. We explain the mechanism of how these agents work, so the fabric developers can change their formulation and then make better fabrics."

### Sweating Soldiers

It is not just regular Army uniforms that may one day be pre-treated with such chemicals. At the forefront of the effort are replacements for chemical warfare protective suits that not only decontaminate themselves, but which are also lighter weight so they put less burden on the Soldiers who wear them.

Any Soldier that has worn the "Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology," or JSLIST, knows how uncomfortable the uniform can be. The ensemble usually includes the JSLIST suit itself, which is designed to keep chemical warfare agents from ever reaching a Soldier's body, along with rubber gloves, rubber boots, a gas mask, and a hood.

The JSLIST suit is a challenge for Soldiers. For one, the suit decreases Soldier mobility. Additionally, while the suit provides chemical protection, it also comes with a significant heat burden - especially in warm climates - that greatly

decreases the effectiveness of Soldiers.

"A lot of our theater operations are taking place in very hot climates," McGarvey said. "The main problem the Army is worried about is, even if they don't run into a chemical weapon, the Soldier could be rendered combat-ineffective just by wearing the suit. Within a few hours, for the JSLIST suit that is being currently used, there is a heat burden. In the desert sun it gets to be a problem."

McGarvey said development is underway for a new product called the "Uniform Integrated Protective Ensemble," or UIPE. The UIPE is meant to one day replace the JSLIST. Important requirements for the UIPE include a different design so that it is easier for Soldiers to move while wearing the suit: improved mobility. Also, the fabric used is meant to be thinner. Additionally, he said, the UIPE is being designed with specially designed vents that provide some breathability to the uniform.

The first iteration of UIPE - UIPE 1 - has already undergone field testing at Aberdeen Proving Ground, though it is not yet fielded, McGarvey said.

The UIPE 2, the follow-on design,

is expected to include self-decontamination features as well, and will be a boon to those units that are most likely to come into contact with chemical warfare agents.

"We're looking at Special Operations and things like that," McGarvey said. "They want people to maintain a high level of mobility. There is less certainty that they are going into a contaminated area. So the idea is to have something that is flexible, lightweight, and which provides a certain level of protection."

For Soldiers in the rest of the Army - non-Special Operations units - the UIPE could be equally effective.

"They have the possibility, even if they are not aware they have been contaminated, that they can remain safe in that circumstance," McGarvey said. "It is a way to reduce the logistical burden to the Army and a way to protect Soldiers who have been contaminated."

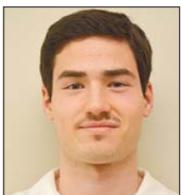
On the horizon, McGarvey said, is UIPE 3. He said goals there include more efficient chemicals built into the fabric that can handle a wider variety of chemical warfare agents as well as a larger volume of such agents.

"We are always looking for something that is faster, more effective, and that can handle a higher amount of agent," he said. "It's also important that the materials be compatible with human skin."

McGarvey said that some of the chemicals in testing now are already approved for human use. Some, for instance, are related to chemicals found in hand sanitizers.

"They've been [Food and Drug Administration] approved, approved for consumer use for human skin contact. And they've already been shown to be biocidal - one of the points of the suits is to protect against biological threats as well as chemical threats," he said. "Since these compounds are known to be biocidal, it's a good starting point. And we've also seen very good results against chemical weapons with some of them."

ECBC is not alone in developing agents that can be incorporated into the fabric of both regular military uniforms, as well as chemical warfare protective suits. The ECBC is part of a team that includes the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center, the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.



## At your service

### Brandon Allen, AWC Health Educator

By **RACHEL PONDER**  
APG News

As an Army Wellness Center health educator, Brandon Allen teaches clients how to adopt and sustain a healthy lifestyle.

His responsibilities include conducting metabolic and fitness testing, and body composition assessments using the

Bod Pod, a device that measures body fat and fat free mass (which includes muscles, bones, organs, connective tissue and water weight.)

Allen uses the results to help clients set realistic, achievable goals and he encourages them to have monthly assessments to track their progress.

In addition to working with clients on

a one-on-one basis, he teaches "Upping Your Metabolism," "Stress Management" and "Healthy Sleep Habits" classes offered through the AWC.

Allen said he was drawn to this line of work because he wanted to help others.

"Everyone has a different story, and I find it rewarding to have the opportunity to assist these individuals in reaching their goals no matter how big or small," he said.

He was promoted to this position last November, after serving the APG AWC two years as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) intern and as a health technician. Prior to working at APG, he was a physical therapy technician.

Allen holds a bachelor's degree in exercise and sport science from Frostburg State University and is a National Academy of Sports Medicine certified

personal trainer. In 2014, he earned an Exercise is Medicine Level 1 credential from the American College of Sports Medicine.

The six core programs offered at AWC include health assessment review, physical fitness, healthy nutrition, stress management, general wellness education, and tobacco education.

The AWC program is a U.S. Army Medical Command Program overseen by the U.S. Army Public Health Command. The center, located on the third floor of the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, offers free, standardized health services to Soldiers, retirees, their family members and Department of the Army civilians, on a space available basis. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 410-306-1024.



## KUSAHC NCO wins Fort Meade Medical Department Activity NCO of the Year title

Fort George G. Meade U.S. Army Medical Department Activity (MEDDAC) Command Sgt. Maj. R. D. W. Crosby, right, congratulates Sgt. Jose L. Gomez Jr., assigned to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, after Gomez won the title of MEDDAC NCO of the Year.

Gomez earned the title by winning four of the five events at the Fort George G. Meade MEDDAC Competition held Feb. 24-25.

The competition was based on knowledge, personal appearance, physical condition and overall Soldier skills. Each candidate participated in a written exam, essay and several practical exercises.

Gomez will go on to represent KUSAHC and Fort George G. Meade in the Northern Regional Medical Command Best Warrior Competition at Fort AP Hill, Virginia March 24-27, with aspirations of qualifying for the Medical Command Best Warrior Competition.

Courtesy photo

# 2015 Easter Season Worship Services

### APG North (Aberdeen) chapel

#### Catholic service

Friday, March 20 Stations/Soup & Bread 6 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 22 5th Sunday of Lent 8:45 a.m.  
 Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
 Friday, April 3 Good Friday 3 p.m.  
 Friday, April 3 Soup/Bread/Movie 6 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 4 Easter Vigil Mass 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, April 5 Easter Sunday 8:45 a.m.

#### Protestant service

All Sunday services 10:45 a.m.

#### Gospel service

All Sunday services at noon

### APG South (Edgewood) chapel

#### Catholic Service

Sunday, March 22 5th Sunday of Lent 10:45 a.m.  
 Friday, March 27 Stations/Soup & Bread 6 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday 10:45 a.m.  
 Thursday, April 2 Holy Thursday 7 p.m.  
 Friday, April 3 Good Friday 3 p.m.  
 Sunday, April 5 Easter Sunday 10:45 a.m.

#### Protestant service

All Sunday services 9:15 a.m.

#### Jewish Holy Days

Friday, April 3, Passover begins  
 Saturday, April 4 Passover ends  
 For more information, contact Col. Jonas Vogel-

hut at 443-619-2304.

### Chapel special programs

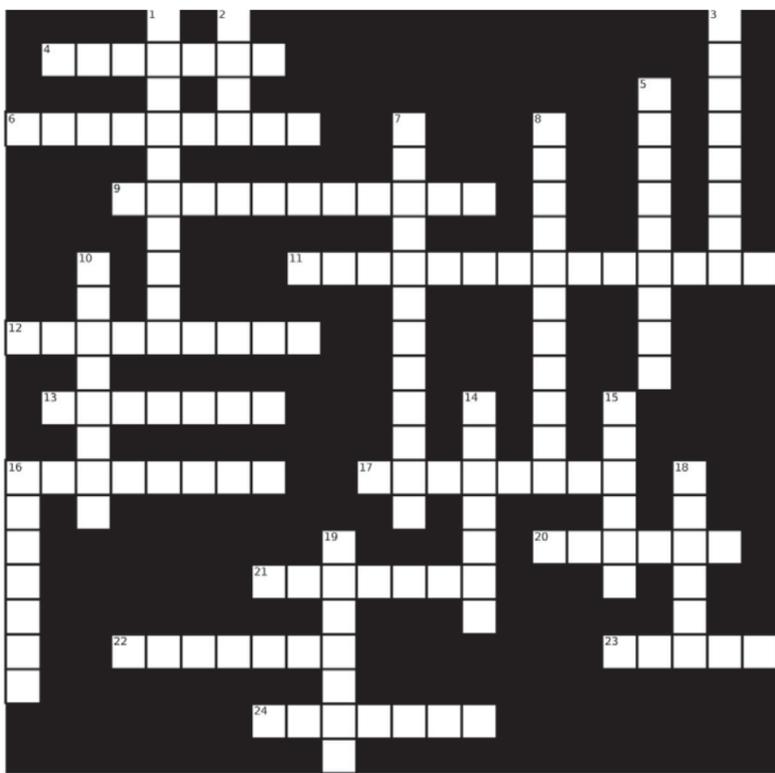
**Protestant Lenten bible study and lunch** will be held at noon at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel fellowship hall March 25 and April 1.

**The Francis Effect Lenten Program** will be held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Friday in Lent at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel. Child care will be provided. Contact Cathy Day.

**The Easter Sunrise Service** will be held 7 a.m. at the APG North (Aberdeen) chapel, hosted by Protestant Men of the Chapel. A hot breakfast will be served after the service.

For more information call 410-278-4333 or joyce.l.wood.civ@mail.mil.

# The APG Crossword



By YVONNE JOHNSON, APG News

Gen. Douglas MacArthur commanded the Southwest Pacific in World War II, oversaw the Allied occupation of postwar Japan and led United Nations forces in the Korean War. He may best be remembered for the iconic words: "I shall return" during a famous speech regarding the fall of the Philippines on March 20, 1942.

### Across

- 4. In April 1942, MacArthur was appointee Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest \_\_\_\_\_ Area.
- 6. This 26th President of the United States requested MacArthur as an aide to assist in White House functions.
- 9. The first father/son to receive the Medal of Honor, MacArthur's father received it for his actions in the Civil War while MacArthur received it for actions during this campaign.

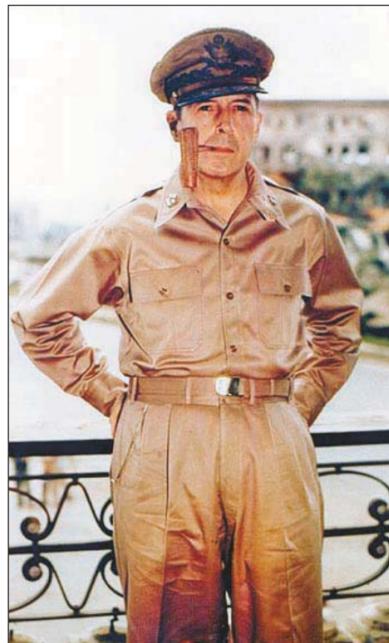
- 11. MacArthur accepted this position at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.
- 12. MacArthur made his famous "I shall return" quote regarding Bataan, from this nation.
- 13. The Douglas MacArthur Memorial is in this Virginia city.
- 16. MacArthur shot seven bandits and one horse while being set on during the occupation of this Mexico town.
- 17. The 1945 invasion of Japan that never took place was

- known as Operation \_\_\_\_\_.
- 20. This Philippine president conferred the title of field marshal on MacArthur in 1936.
- 21. In 1904, Lt. MacArthur's tour of duty in the Philippines was cut short when he contracted this.
- 22. MacArthur cautioned President John F. Kennedy not to begin a major military build-up there.
- 23. She was MacArthur's loving but overbearing mother.
- 24. MacArthur was sent to Europe as Chief of Staff of the 42nd Division, also known by this nickname.

### Down

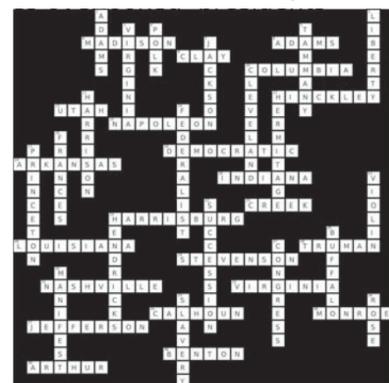
- 1. MacArthur once called him "The best clerk I ever had."
- 2. MacArthur was one of only this many men to rise to the rank of General of the Army.
- 3. MacArthur's first wife, Louise, was from this Maryland town.
- 5. He was the youngest one in the American Expeditionary Forces when he reached this rank of general.
- 7. As Army Chief of Staff, MacArthur supported President Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal through the Army's Civilian \_\_\_\_\_ Corps.
- 8. MacArthur's father led a successful charge on Confederate forces in this Tennessee city during the Civil War.
- 10. The Japanese surrender ceremony, led by 5-star Gen. MacArthur took place on this famous battleship.
- 14. While serving in Australia, MacArthur formed a signal intelligence organization known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Bureau.
- 15. After the surrender of Japan, President Truman appointed MacArthur Supreme Commander for the \_\_\_\_\_

- Powers.
- 16. MacArthur famously declared, there is no substitute for this.
- 18. A popular Japanese nickname for MacArthur in Japan was "the blue-eyed \_\_\_\_\_."
- 19. In addition to better-known roles, MacArthur also served as Army Chief of Staff during the Depression and as captain of the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ team in 1928.



MacArthur

Solution to the March 12 puzzle



Come and follow us <https://twitter.com/USAGAPG>

# RDECOM CSM retires after 30 years

By **DAN LAFONTAINE**  
RDECOM

The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command honored Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert O. Beharie during his retirement ceremony on Aberdeen Proving Ground March 12.

A change of responsibility ceremony immediately preceded Beharie's retirement as Command Sgt. Maj. James P. Snyder took over as RDECOM's senior noncommissioned officer.

"I've been honored to be part of this band of brothers and sisters," Beharie said. "There is no greater feeling of pride and honor than that of service to a noble cause greater than the desires of oneself. To unselfishly serve your fellow man, this is the life of a Soldier."

Beharie's family -- wife, Sabrina; son, Raphael; and daughter, Isabella -- joined about 250 Soldiers, Army civilians and friends at the APG North (Aberdeen) Myer Auditorium for the ceremony.

Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton, RDECOM commanding general, said that Beharie's legacy of honor and commitment will live on through the lives he has affected during his three decades of service.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Beharie has a record of accomplishments that speak for themselves. He has always been there when his nation has called. He has led from the front, and he has always gone to places of danger," Wharton said. "He never asked anything of his Soldiers that he didn't ask of himself. He took care of our most precious resource -- our sons and daughters.

"He has passion for taking care of his Soldiers and his family. Your legacy will remain for all those thousands of Soldiers you have trained over the years."

Beharie enlisted in 1986 and has five deployments to Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He had served as RDECOM command sergeant major since March 16, 2012.

Beharie was raised in Jamaica by his grandparents and moved to Florida during his high school years to live with his aunt and uncle. He fell in love with aviation during time at airports while traveling between Jamaica and the United States. His dream of working in aviation was realized as he enlisted in the Army and spent 30 years fulfilling his passion.



(Above) Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton, RDECOM commanding general, left, presents an American flag to Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert O. Beharie during his retirement ceremony March 12. Beharie served as RDECOM command sergeant major since March 16, 2012.

(Left) Sgt. 1st Class Ernest Robledo, right, presents roses to Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert O. Beharie's wife, Sabrina, during her husband's March 12 retirement ceremony. Photos by Conrad Johnson

Service to country, however, comes with sacrifice and hardship, especially during times of war, he said.

"No one knows that better than our Soldiers and their families," Beharie said.

"My wife and kids know all too well what I'm talking about. They, like other Army families, have had to deal with many year-long deployments as well as other separation because of

duties and responsibilities to the Army. "For that reason, I want to thank my wife for her unwavering support to me, our kids as well as our Soldiers and their families. You are my hero."

# Snyder brings operational insight to RDECOM

Continued from Page 1

do," Wharton said. "He has a vast history of operational experience and a total of six combat deployments. That's the kind of leader who can tell you what it's like in the field and what technologies we need.

"He is a consummate professional, a mentor and someone who exemplifies the Army's values. He simply represents the Army's best. He served as an ambassador, not only for RDECOM, but for AMC and the Army."

RDECOM's enlisted Soldiers provide valuable feedback to the command's researchers on how science and technology translates into the field, Wharton said. He praised Snyder as a seasoned leader ready for the responsibility as RDECOM's senior NCO.

"Command Sgt. Maj. Snyder comes to us with great experience, and you are who we need at this time," Wharton said. "He has had a total of five years in combat. He brings to us a deep operational experience that will mix very well with our scientists and engineers."

Beharie praised his family, Army

leadership, mentors and the RDECOM workforce for their support during his three decades of service.

"I do not want to focus on any initiatives or accomplishments that I may have achieved while I was here. Instead, I want to continue to say thanks," Beharie said. "My family and I are grateful and humbled by your outpouring of

support. "When I took responsibility as command sergeant major of this organization, I was impressed with the capabilities of this command as well as the patriotism of our workforce. The command touches every aspect of Soldiers' lives, from the food they eat, the clothes they wear, and everything that helps us shoot, move and

**“Command Sgt. Maj. Snyder comes to us with great experience, and you are who we need at this time. He has had a total of five years in combat. He brings to us a deep operational experience that will mix very well with our scientists and engineers.”**

**Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton**  
RDECOM commanding general

communicate. We do it all here. "I know our Soldiers will continue to enjoy the overmatch on the battlefield because of the great men and women of this command. For what you have done in the past and for what you will do in the future, I salute you."

The command sergeant major is responsible for the training, professional development, retention, readiness and discipline of Soldiers under his charge.

Snyder enlisted in 1990 and attended Basic Training at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He graduated from Advanced Individual Training at Fort Eustis, Virginia, as an AH-64 Attack Helicopter repairman.

The Army promoted Snyder to the rank of command sergeant major in 2008. In his most recent assignment, Snyder served as the command sergeant major of the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division.

Snyder has deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He has a bachelor of science from Excelsior College and an associate's degree in aeronautical studies from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### Xenophobia

Pronounced: zen-uh-foh-bee-uh

**Part of speech: Noun**

**Definition:**  
an irrational fear of strangers, foreigners or of anything foreign.

**Other forms:**  
xenophobe; noun  
xenophobic; adjective

- Use:**
- To perpetuate racism and xenophobia through our media is not only anti-social and grossly irresponsible, it is [nearly] criminal.
  - The point is that this prejudice is based not on xenophobia—a fear of the unknown-but experience.
  - My concern is how terrorism promotes xenophobia and racism; that destructive generalizations are drawn and incorrect conclusions arrived at.
  - He is so xenophobic he would never consider traveling outside the country.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News  
Source: <http://websters.yourdictionary.com/>

## ACRONYM OF THE WEEK

### MCEN

**Marine Corps Enterprise Network**

The MCEN is a Marine Corps network of networks and approved interconnected network segments. The MCEN provides robust, seamless and secure end to end communications – from the supporting establishment to forward deployed forces. It comprises people, processes, logical and physical infrastructure, architecture, topology and Cyberspace Operations.

Its physical infrastructure is analogous to the Defense Information System Network (DISN), and the Local Exchange Carrier (LEC), as it enables the Marine Corps Information Technology Environment (MCITE) and the flow of data, information, and knowledge across the Marine Corps Information Environment (MCIE). The MCEN interfaces with external networks to provide information and resource sharing, as well as access to external services.

It better serves Operational Forward Deployed Forces by improving seamlessness, reachback, interoperability, and security to the base/post/station enclaves and leveraging Enterprise IT services.

By **YVONNE JOHNSON**, APG News  
Source: <http://www.hqmc.marines.mil/>

# Prayer luncheon offers moment of reflection

Continued from Page 1

U.S. Coast Guard and senior pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Noting that President Dwight Eisenhower designed the forum for building relationships, Utley said the luncheon provided “a time to reflect and count our many blessings.”

He said that spiritual resiliency means acknowledging there are “greater things in play helping to shape who we are.”

Noting that Gilbert was the first African-American to be commissioned a USCG chaplain and to be appointed chaplain of the USCG, he called him a “distinguished speaker who served the needs of those less fortunate.”

Gilbert joked that he would make everyone a Baptist during his speech. He talked about faith moving mountains and asked listeners, “What moves your rock?”

“At time when we get weary from God we tend to use our intellect the way we want,” he said. “We forget it’s still God who moves mountains. When you have hard and difficult times and you are pushing against the rock, you must remember and have faith that God will move it for you.”

After sharing a story about how a tumor he had was thought to be cancerous but found to be benign, he exclaimed, “I’m telling you today that God is moving rocks.”

He also recalled when a young boy who saw him in uniform stopped him to thank him for his service to the nation and said that “being spiritual is about serving others.”

He encouraged listeners to volunteer to serve the nation’s veterans.

“Think about those in harm’s way who make it possible for this country to stand strong,” he said. “Think about the veterans coming back; increasingly, they are women,” he added noting that 47 percent of homeless veterans are African-American and eight percent are women.



(From left) The Reverend Dr. Leroy Gilbert, senior pastor of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. and the first African American appointed Chaplain of the U.S. Coast Guard, delivers the keynote address during the APG National Prayer Luncheon at Top of the Bay March 10; Gospel recording artist Laymetha Reed-Guy performs one of several moving songs she sang before and during the program.



Photos by Yvonne Johnson

“This has been a persistent problem for decades and it shouldn’t be happening,” he said. “Everybody can be united in service. You only need a heart and soul generated by love. Get to know the satisfaction that comes from making a difference in someone’s life.”

At the conclusion of his message, listeners, many of whom shouted praises throughout, gave him a standing ovation and Chaplain Lt. Col. Juan Crockett, of RDECOM, led a gift presentation to Gilbert. He was joined by Utley, Martin, Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Adams, Garrison Chaplain Lt. Col. Jerry Owens, RDECOM Commander Maj. Gen. John F. Wharton and former RDECOM Command Sgt. Maj. Lebert Beharie.

Attendees agreed on the program’s timeliness and emphasis.

“I was impressed with the amount of senior commanders involved,” said Staff Sgt. David Carter of RDECOM.

“As a Christian, it was good to see so many members of leadership that follow the same beliefs. That way I know they believe in taking care of others.”

He added that he particularly enjoyed Gilbert’s presentation.

“I was brought up in a Baptist community so it was nice to get back to it,” he said.

“I really enjoyed all the good Christian messages for everybody,” said Kathleen Santana, a volunteer with the chapel’s Catholic service. “It was a good message to be heard by all faiths.”

“We’re happy that everything went well,” said Sgt. 1st Class Buffie Hall, the command chaplain NCOIC, 20th CBRNE Command. “It looks like people really enjoyed his message. Everyone got it.”

An array of APG leaders and chaplaincy participated in the program. Special readings and prayers were offered by Beharie; Brig. Gen. Wil-

liam Cole, RDECOM deputy; Col. Gordon Graham, commander Aberdeen Test Center; retired Col. Jonas Vogelhut, Harford Jewish Center; and Suzanne Milchling, director of Program Integration, U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center. Owens gave the Call to Prayer and Chaplain Resource Manager Maj. Mark Rendon blessed the meal. The benediction was offered by Chaplain Lt. Col. David Bowerman of the U.S. Army Public Health Command.

Entertainment included songs by local musician Laymetha Reed-Guy; bagpipe music by Mark Bartfield of Highland Cathedral; and a hymn by the APG community choir and members of the Susquehanna Symphony Orchestra led by Chaplain Lt. Col. Young Kim. Constance Richardson, Catholic pastoral coordinator, presented a history on St. Patrick and Renesha Robinson of CECOM sang the nation anthem.

## Did You Know?

### Trailblazing Puerto Rican women first entered the Army and Navy during World War II.

During World War II, the Army recruited 200 Puerto Rican women to bolster the ranks of the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps in 1944. At the start of the war, many Puerto Rican nurses wanted to volunteer but were turned down by the Army and Navy Nurse Corps due to racial discrimination.

The Puerto Rican WAC unit, Company 6, 2nd Battalion, 21st Regiment, a segregated Hispanic unit, was assigned to the New York Port of Embarkation after basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. They worked in military offices which planned the shipment of troops around the world.

Among them was Pfc. Carmen García Rosado, who in 2006, authored and published a book titled “Las WACS: Participacion de la Mujer Boricua en la Segunda Guerra Mundial” (The WACS: Participation of Puerto Rican Women in the Second World War), the first book to document the experiences of the Army’s first 200 Puerto Rican women.

By 1944, the Army Nurse Corps (ANC) decided to accept Puerto Rican nurses. Thirteen women submitted applications, were interviewed, underwent physical examinations, and were accepted into the ANC. Eight of these nurses were assigned to the Army Post at San Juan, and five were assigned to the hospital at Camp Tortuguero, Puerto Rico.

The Navy also recruited a small number of Puerto Rican women as members of the Navy Women’s Reserve known as WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) during World War II. Among the women who served with distinction were:

▪ **Tech 4 Carmen Contreras-Bozak** – The first Hispanic to serve in the U.S. Women’s Army Corps as an interpreter, and in numerous administrative positions. She arrived in Northern Africa Jan. 27, 1943 and rendered overseas duties in Algiers within Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower’s theatre headquarters. Her responsibilities included the transmission of encoded messages to the battlefield.

▪ **2nd Lt. Carmen Lozano Dumler** – Dumler was one of the first Puerto Rican women to become a U.S. Army officer. In 1945, Lozano Dumler was assigned to the 359th Station Hospital of Ft. Read, Trinidad & Tobago, British West Indies, where she attended wounded soldiers who had returned from Normandy, France.

▪ **Navy Lt. Grade Maria Rodriguez Denton** – The first woman from Puerto Rico to become an officer in the U.S. Navy as a member of the WAVES. Assigned as a library assistant at the Cable and Censorship Office in New York City, it was Denton who forwarded the news (through channels) to President Harry S. Truman that the war had ended.

▪ **Marie Teresa Rios Versace** – A writer of Puerto Rican descent who also served in World War II. Rios was the mother of Medal of Honor recipient Capt. Humbert Roque Versace and author of “The Fifteenth Pelican,” which was the basis for the 1960s television sitcom “The Flying Nun.” She drove Army trucks and buses, and also served as a pilot for the Civil Air Patrol. Rios Versace wrote and edited for newspapers in Guam, Germany, Wisconsin, and South Dakota, and the DOD-supported “Star & Stripes.”



Contreras-Bozak



Dumler



Denton



Versace

Yvonne Johnson, APG News  
Source: www.wikipedia.org



Rhonda Diaz, director of the Civilian Human Resources Agency (CHRA) and a member of the senior executive service (SES), presents Yolanda Maria Martinez with an award in recognition of her achievements at Women’s History Month Observance at APG North (Aberdeen) March 11. Martinez, who served as guest speaker, is the founder and CEO of Respira Medical, a respiratory, sleep medicine and durable medical equipment company.

Photo by Stacy Smith

## Women’s program features career advice, inspiration

Continued from Page 1

women from all cultures and classes are accessible and visible as never before.”

Mistress of ceremonies and APG Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director Leslie Lovick opened the event, followed by the singing of the national anthem by CPAC employee Stacy Hall and the invocation by Garrison Chaplain Lt. Col. Jerry Owens.

The daylong event included workshops on starting and revitalizing a career, financial challenges, estate-planning, workplace goal-setting, and an overview of Reduction-in-Force (RIF).

“We had great reviews on the trainings, specifically the RIF,” said Elizabeth Young, FWP chairperson. “I sat in on the class; attendees learned how to update their job resumes.”

Guest speaker Yolanda Maria Martinez shared her life story about overcoming personal and professional adversity to become the founder and CEO of Respira Medical, a division of Respira, Inc., a respiratory, sleep medicine and durable medical equipment company.

Martinez said she was inspired to develop a compassionate approach to home health care after watching her father suffer with COPD. She encouraged attendees to accept help from others in times of distress, just as she did.

“Get to know each other today; talk to a stranger, and just get to know them. Because we all have a story, and we want to share those stories,” Martinez said. “Remember that your words are so powerful. Your words can hurt; your words can heal.”

The observance proceeded with the introduction of four local women who served in the former Women’s Army Corps (WAC): Charlotte Irby, Betty Kru-

ger, Connie Murphy, and Tamara Petersen. Irby, who worked as a construction utility worker and firefighter while stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama and in Germany, read a letter she wrote to her daughter about her experiences in the Army.

The WAC was the women’s branch of the U.S. Army and was created as an auxiliary unit, converted to full status in 1943. The WAC was disbanded in 1978 and all units were integrated with their male counterparts.

Robin Bruns, wife of APG Senior Command Sgt. Maj. William G. Bruns, said she enjoyed hearing Irby’s story because it was relatable.

“She took us all through a journey with her letter as we could relate to her story on so many levels; from our own training days to how we try to instill pride, respect and patriotism in our children,” Bruns said.

After the observance, Rachel Acevedo of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) performed Alicia Keys’ hit song, “Girl on Fire.”

Speakers, guests and musicians included in the day’s events received tokens of appreciation for their participation. Pam Lucchese, CHRA employee and one of several event coordinators, said she was pleased to see women come together to learn from and support one another.

“It was great how everyone so willingly gave of their time and talents to help with this year’s Women’s History Month observance,” she said. “I think the stories and the songs were very inspiring and left attendees with a better awareness of why we celebrate.”

The FWP will host a Women’s Equality Day in August with date and time to be determined.

# APG SNAPSHOT

Take a peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/>.



Photos by Molly Blossie

## SPRING BAZAAR DELIGHTS

The MWR Travel Fair and Spring Bazaar helped Team APG fight cabin fever and set plans for spring and summer family outings and vacation.

(Clockwise from top left)

- Maj. Greg Sandifer, of the Systems of Systems Engineering and Integration Directorate (SOSE&I), purchases chocolate bark from All Things Sweet & Treats chocolatier Cheryl Hiers.
- ARL Human Research and Engineering Directorate employee Jen Winkler, right, searches for the perfect scented candle with the assistance of Scentsy consultant Doenee Moscato.
- ARL employee Marianne Koch watches as consultant Beth Williams models one of several ways to wear a Vivi Jewelry (formerly known as Cookie Lee) bracelet.
- APG military spouse Sarah Bacon smiles while watching Baltimore Orioles' mascot, The Oriole Bird, greet a visitor.

## TOP O' THE MORNING TEAM APG

Mysterious APG resident Little Man greets passersby with a little Luck of the Irish, just in time for St. Patrick's Day. Sitting atop a drain pipe on Maryland Boulevard, Little Man's festive outfits change every few weeks, often in sync with upcoming holidays or events.

Photo by Molly Blossie



## IRON EAGLE COMPETITION SOARS

Capt. Tarik Jones knocks out his push-ups under the watchful eye of Grader Sgt. 1st Class Jayson Price during the APG Iron Eagle Fitness Challenge at Hoyle Gym March 13.

Photos by Yvonne Johnson

